

Sales by Auction.

LIBRARY OF THE LATE BERTIE R. MATHEW, ESQ.
By Messrs. CHRISTIE & MANSON, at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, on WEDNESDAY, April 22, at 1 precisely, by order of the Executors.

THE capital LIBRARY of BERTIE B. MATHEW, Esq., removed from the mansion in Cavendish-square; comprising the Galerie du Palais Royal, Musée Français, Luxembourg, and Le Brun, and the other galleries—Liber Veritatis, Les Voyages Pittoresques, Lodge's Portraits, folio—Belzoni, Parker, Bruce, and other Travels—Boydell's Shakespeare, and the best Works in English literature, many in morocco bindings, and all in beautiful condition.
May be viewed two days preceding, and Catalogues had.

THE WORKS of the late JOHN SCARLETT DAVIS, Esq.
By Messrs. CHRISTIE & MANSON, at their Great Room, No. 3, King-street, St. James's-square, on SATURDAY, April 25,

A VERY important COLLECTION of the WORKS of that talented Artist, JOHN SCARLETT DAVIS, Esq., deceased; together with a small assemblage of Pictures by other English Painters, the property of a gentleman.

IMPORTANT COLLECTION of OLD DRAWINGS.
By Messrs. CHRISTIE & MANSON, at their Great Room, King-street, St. James's-square, on MONDAY, April 27, and following day, at 1 precisely.

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Further notice will be given.

MEXICAN ORCHIDS.

MESSRS. J. C. & S. STEVENS have just received, per *Aron*, a Consignment of ORCHIDS, which they will **SELL by AUCTION**, at their Great Room, 38, King-street, Covent-garden, on TUESDAY, 21st April, at 12 o'clock.—The Plants are in high health, and comprise fine specimens of *Odontoglossum Cervantesii* and *Rosellii*; *Stanhopcia*, *Pleurothallis*, *Oncidium*, a new *Laelia*, a new *Peristeria*, and several unknown.
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APPARATUS, OBJECTS of NATURAL HISTORY and CURIOSITY.

MESSRS. J. C. & S. STEVENS will **SELL by AUCTION**, at their Great Room, 38, King-street, Covent-garden, on THURSDAY, April 23, at 12 o'clock.

A GAS MICROSCOPE, by Cary, and a set of Dissolving Views (formerly used at the Polytechnic); Models of Steam Engines; two of Black's Portable Furnaces; Marine Barometer; Telescope, by Dollond; Ship Compasses; and a variety of Scientific Apparatus; also a few Shells, Minerals, Birds, Coins, Coriosities and Antiquities; a 21-Day Clock, Chamber Organ, and a quantity of Miscellaneous Articles.
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TO MINERALOGISTS.

MESSRS. J. C. & S. STEVENS have the honour to announce that they will **SELL by AUCTION**, at their Great Room, 38, King-street, Covent-garden, on MONDAY, May 15, and 4 following days.

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Catalogues are preparing.

TO CONCHOLOGISTS.

MESSRS. J. C. & S. STEVENS beg to announce they are instructed by the Executors to **SELL by AUCTION**, at their Great Room, 38, King-street, Covent-garden, during the month of May,

THE COLLECTION of SHELLS formed by the late Mr. SINFIELD, of Preston; consisting of Examples of almost all the Genera, together with many of the rarest Species. Catalogues will be shortly prepared, and the days of Sale announced.
King-street, Covent-garden, April, 1846.

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MR. L. A. LEWIS will **SELL** at his House, 125, Fleet-street, on TUESDAY, 22nd,

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LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1846.

REVIEWS

The Life of the Right Hon. George Canning.
By R. Bell, Esq. Chapman & Hall.

It is so natural for a biographer to become the partisan of his hero, to exaggerate virtues and palliate errors, that the task of the critic is rendered as ungracious as that of the herald in the Court of Burgundy when he had to introduce an "abatement into a noble emblazonry." In the present instance the difficulty is increased by the general candour with which Mr. Bell has discussed the salient points in Canning's political career, by the ability with which he evolves the sound principles imperfectly enunciated,—perhaps imperfectly comprehended by the statesman, and by the acuteness with which he avails himself of the smallest clue to trace the labyrinth of the many intrigues which rank among the mysteries of modern policy. Godolphin, Harley, Walpole, Chatham, Pitt, and Canning may be deemed successive victims to the English system of parliamentary tactics; a system ingeniously contrived to impose fetters on genius and to give prominence to mediocrity; each was, in his turn, a Gulliver chained down by the Lilliputians. Bolingbroke, the first to perceive the tendency of the system and the last to devise a deliberate plan for its overthrow, was excluded from the field of politics too effectually to have an opportunity of measuring his strength against "the combinations;" his admirers, therefore, dwell on what he might have done,—a speculation beyond the reach of criticism. Canning's difficulties were increased by a circumstance which it is useless to deny; he began life as a political adventurer; his talents, his energies, and his moral principles were superior to most, perhaps to all, of that class, but he was essentially an adventurer who entered on politics as a trade, though with him the trade was elevated to the dignity of one of the learned professions. The circumstance was his misfortune more than his fault, but it exercised a blighting influence over his whole career; it made him seek character with the House rather than with the nation; it made him regard office as the only means by which he could acquire fame and fortune. Had he gone to the bar when he entered the House of Commons, and delayed his entrance into public life until professional success had secured him competence, he would have escaped many equivocal actions and many more degrading suspicions.

In morals, as in literature, we have often to apply the rule "*decipit exemplar vitis imitabile*;" the distinction between what may be excused and yet what may not be praised, is often lost in the brilliancy which intellect throws around aberrations. To pardon is one thing and to admire another; but the transition between the two is easy when the nature of the action is involved with the dazzling qualities of the agent. A brief survey of Canning's career will illustrate the danger of this difference, and show the necessity of discriminating cautiously between the character of the man and the character of his actions.

Canning was born in London, April 11, 1770. His father, the disinherited son of a respectable family, died the year after his birth, leaving his widowed mother in such straitened circumstances that she was obliged to go on the stage for support: meeting with indifferent success on the London boards, she went to the provinces, and married a strolling manager named Reddish, a dissipated man of loose principles. The dangers to which young Canning was exposed under such a step-father having been forcibly brought to the notice of his paternal uncle,

that gentleman consented to take charge of the boy, and in conjunction with others of the family settled on him an estate, worth 200*l.* a-year. This was deemed sufficient to defray the expenses of his education, and give him a fair start in professional life. The uncle was a banker, strongly attached to liberal politics, and personally attached to the leaders of the Whig party, Burke, Fox and Sheridan. It was by the advice of Fox that the boy was sent to Eton, where he soon acquired great celebrity as a scholar, a debater, and even as an author. At sixteen he contributed some clever essays to a periodical called '*The Microcosm*,' established by a knot of young Etonians. Prize essays maintained his literary reputation at Oxford; debating societies extended his fame in London. High expectations were formed of his success in public life; Sheridan prematurely announced to the House of Commons that a new star was about to be added to the galaxy of talent which shone on the opposition side of the political hemisphere; the first Lord Lansdowne pointed him out to Bentham as the future prime minister of England, and Godwin regarded him as the predestined man of the people. All were disappointed; he entered public life as the humble follower of Mr. Pitt. The countless explanations which have been given of this change of principle—that afforded by Mr. Bell being about the most apocryphal of all—are proofs that his conduct required some apology. There is no difficulty about the matter:—he entered public life without such a competency as would support him in independence, he was therefore obliged to take from party what he had not in purse; and this much at least may be said in his defence, that he was allowed greater freedom of thought and action under Pitt, than would have been permitted to him as the nominee to any of the family boroughs of the Whig aristocracy.

Canning's speeches in defence of the French war, and his lampoons in the '*Anti-Jacobin*,' have the common qualities of wit, grace and brilliancy, but they are all marked by that vagueness of principle which distinguishes the advocate from the statesman. The hollowness of his advocacy is now placed beyond question by the publication of the Malmesbury papers; he and Mr. Pitt were as anxious for peace as the leaders of opposition themselves, but they had not courage to resist Lord Grenville's belligerent propensities, whose resignation would have broken up the cabinet; thus Pitt continued to lavish blood and treasure in a war which he believed not only unnecessary but injurious, while Canning delivered one of his most magnificent displays of eloquence in defence of a course of policy which he was at the very time labouring to overthrow. A more wanton sacrifice of all national considerations to party exigencies can hardly be found in history.

Canning did not take a very active share in effecting the Union of Great Britain and Ireland,—a Union as eagerly sought by the Irish in 1707, as it was resisted in 1799. On him, however, devolved the task of proposing Catholic Emancipation as the boon for Catholic acquiescence in the measure, and to his warmth of temperament it was owing that the ministerial hints very nearly amounted to ministerial pledges. This is the obvious reason of his resigning when Pitt quitted office to make room for Addington, when so many other of Pitt's dependents retained their places. He had, however, greatly improved his position a little before by his marriage with the daughter of General Scott, a lady who united to the more essential elements of domestic happiness, large fortune and influential connexions. Lord Malmesbury

reveals the secret of Canning's resignation; he believed that Pitt could re-assume power whenever he pleased, and that if he were regarded as a martyr to his own integrity and the King's intolerance, his restoration to office on the demand of the nation would place him in a more commanding position than he had ever occupied before. But Pitt had no desire for martyrdom, and no one could be got to believe that he had; the nation seemed disposed to go on very well without him, and had he not turned out Addington, he ran a fair chance of sinking into oblivion. Instead of imposing conditions on the King, he was compelled to receive them, and these conditions involved a struggle which brought him to a premature grave.

On the formation of the Fox and Grenville administration, Canning became, not merely the leader, but the animating spirit of the Opposition. He justly denounced the appointment of Lord Ellenborough to a seat in the Cabinet, as inconsistent with his judicial functions; but he did not disdain the more questionable arts of faction: he joined in the cry of "No Popery," raised against Fox and his successors, though he went beyond them in the amount of concessions which he believed necessary to satisfy the claims of the Catholics. His hostility to Fox was as personal as vindictive, and as disingenuous as that which he had himself to encounter in a later period of his life. We cannot adopt Mr. Bell's recommendation, and consign these acts to oblivion, as mere human frailties; because they were not only bad in themselves, but infinitely worse in their example. Had Mr. Canning's life been protracted after he became Premier, it is exceedingly probable that his old opposition would have beaten his new ministry. Lax as the morality of party is, it cannot excuse a statesman in opposition for fostering prejudices which he despises, and appealing to passions which he hates. The prejudices and passions survive the occasion for which they are roused, and not unfrequently place the statesman who has used them in the condition of Calderon's necromancer, unable to lay the demons he had evoked. Canning took office as Foreign Secretary, under the Perceval and Portland administration, though the Cabinet was pledged to exclude the Catholic question. His first act was the seizure of the Danish fleet,—a measure which may be plausibly excused, but cannot be justified. The expedition was judiciously planned and ably executed, and thus furnished a remarkable contrast to the armament sent against Walcheren by Canning's colleague and rival, Lord Castlereagh. Canning disliked and perhaps despised Castlereagh; he threatened to resign, if that noble lord continued to preside over the War Department. The Duke of Portland, whom simply to call weak would be sadly to overrate his strength, persuaded Canning to remain until proper arrangements could be made, but concealed from Castlereagh that any arrangements were in contemplation. When the Irish lord at length learned, that during six months one of his colleagues had been stigmatizing him as unfit for office, he took the characteristic course of sending a challenge to Canning—the only person who stood clear of personal offence in the entire transaction. The parties met at Putney Heath, and Canning was wounded; he then resigned, and for more than two years remained out of office. Lord Liverpool twice pressed him to return to the Cabinet; but he refused to serve with Lord Castlereagh, as leader of the House of Commons, yet soon after he consented to serve under him, and accepted the Embassy to Lisbon. On his return from Lisbon he accepted the office of President of the Board of Control, and thus joined

a Cabinet in which not only Castlereagh, but Sidmouth, the object of his most scornful sarcasms and bitter lampoons, was included.

We at once acquit Canning of mercenary motives; but ambition may dictate acts of meanness as well as avarice: the love of power has its baseness, as well as the love of pension. Unfortunately his delinquency was not confined to the mere truckling to those whom he had held up to contempt and derision. They adopted a course of administration which fully illustrated the aphorism, that "violence is the resource of the feeble:" their tales of plots and conspiracies; their answering the wild declamations of agitators by the logic of a troop of dragoons; their inroads on the Constitution in the celebrated Six Acts, were vindicated by Canning with a reckless vehemence which seemed to be the result of self-reproach. Man is never so sensitive to the reproaches of his fellows as when the accusations find an echo in his own bosom. From this political degradation he was rescued by the death of George III., and the arrival of the unfortunate Queen Caroline to assert her rights to royalty.

There are not now two opinions on the unhappy proceedings denominated the Queen's trial; had she been proved guilty of ten-fold the amount of profligacy laid to her charge, her conduct would have been innocent when compared with that of her husband. The British nation interfered, not to gain a triumph for injured innocence, but to prevent the triumph of notorious guilt. Canning, who had been an early friend and steadfast adviser of the unhappy lady, and who knew too well the fearful case of provocation and recrimination which she could establish, tendered his resignation, and when that was not accepted, quitted England. On his return, he found that his colleagues were disposed to continue a system of petty annoyance after their Bill of Pains and Penalties had been rejected; he therefore once more offered to resign, and this time George IV. showed no anxiety to retain his services.

The consciousness that his career as minister required some apology, was manifested by his repeated vindications of himself in his addresses to his constituents at Liverpool; his eloquence was exerted more to quiet the reproaches of his own conscience than to vindicate himself from the charges of opponents. We find him defending himself against accusations which were never made, explaining circumstances about which no one sought elucidation, and losing himself in vague generalities whenever he approached anything definite or tangible. Such a situation was sufficiently embarrassing, and he gladly embraced the first opportunity offered of escape from its perplexities, by accepting the office of Governor-General of India. Castlereagh's melancholy suicide changed his destination. He succeeded his old rival in the Foreign Office, and the secret by which the King's repugnance was overcome, was explained by the appointment of a son of the Marchioness of Conyngham as Under-Secretary. The old joke of Frederick the Great on the Court of Louis XV. was revived; it was said that Canning was minister to George IV. and Petticoat IV.

Whatever may be thought of the means by which he obtained power, the use he made of it merits the highest praise; he liberated England from the trammels of the Holy Alliance, he established the freedom of the South-American Republics, and protected the infant constitution of Portugal. His announcement of the eternal principles of natural rights and national justice, was a proud era in British History; he rose with the occasion, and seemed to have become suddenly invested with the impassioned

energies and moral dignity of Chatham when the fire of his eloquence smote the House of Bourbon. The past was forgiven, and all but forgotten; but there were ominous signs that the jubilation was a little premature. While the applause for liberal principles was ringing in his ears, Canning renewed his vows of hostility to Civil and Religious Liberty at home, to every measure of Parliamentary Reform, and to the repeal of the Test and Corporation Act.

In 1827 Canning obtained the highest object of his ambition, having been chosen Premier on the death of Lord Liverpool. Great was his mortification to find himself instantly abandoned by the most influential of his colleagues, and equally unanimous was the nation in the opinion that their conduct was the result of motives which were little to their credit. Feeling that the sympathies of the public were in his favour, he filled up the vacancies from the ranks of his personal friends, and openly courted an alliance with the Whigs. But here he met a sudden repulse, conveyed in one of the most telling invectives delivered against a public man since the days of Cicero and Antony. Between the new Premier and Earl Grey there had been a feud of twenty years' standing, envenomed on the one hand by sallies of wit, epigram and lampoon, and on the other by reprisals of scorn, defiance and disdain. Cato, deserted in Utica, was not more determined or resolute than the austere but cold Earl, deserted by most of his friends, and surrounded by his inveterate enemies on the opposition benches; his speech had all the personal bitterness of a philippic; there were passages of which Demosthenes himself might have been proud, but its chief force arose from the tone of dignified melancholy by which it was throughout pervaded. Lord Grey appeared like one of the Hebrew prophets lamenting over the ruins of Jerusalem, and denouncing the author of its fall. From this blow Canning never recovered; he felt it to be as fatal as Chatham's similar denunciation of the Rockingham Cabinet; the period of his political career was at an end, and he had no further business with life. Death advanced with hasty strides; he fell when his fame had reached its meridian, and thus escaped the mortification of seeing it culminate in the horizon. He breathed his last at the Duke of Devonshire's villa at Chiswick, August 8th, 1827, in the same house, and in the same room, where Fox had prematurely fallen under circumstances painfully similar.

The grief of the nation for the death of the popular Premier was general, but it was transitory; there was always a painful doubt respecting the course he might pursue: he was involved in a mass of contradictions which had grown up in his past life, and had intercepted for himself and others any clear view of his future. It is now idle to speculate on what he might have done; but it cannot be denied that this is far more matter of speculation than of certainty, and that in itself is a circumstance of condemnation. His career was brilliant, but it was erratic: his intellect was more shining than solid: he was the last of a race of statesmen which never can be revived in England,—the race that sought politics as a professional existence: we may add, that he was the best of his class; but the disappearance of the class itself leaves little to be regretted.

Notitia Cestrensis, or Historical Notices of the Diocese of Chester, by the Right Rev. Francis Gastrell, D.D. Lord Bishop of Chester. Now first printed, with Illustrative and Explanatory Notes, by the Rev. F. R. Raines, M.A. Printed for the Chetham Society.

Of this work the Editor observes:—

"The *Notitia Cestrensis* of Bishop Gastrell has

been pronounced by one of the most accomplished Historians of the present day, 'the noblest document extant on the subject of the Ecclesiastical antiquities of the Diocese,' and every portion of the work is intrinsically valuable both to the Clergy and Laity, as an accurate historical record of a vast and important Diocese. The rights of Patrons and the endowments of Churches, the foundation of Schools and the origin of Charities, the privileges of individuals and the customs of Parishes, though subjects of large extent, are all stated with such minuteness and truth, as to render the facts recorded important historical information, which might elsewhere be searched for in vain."

We doubt, however, whether any reader, unless he be the most patient of drudges, will ratify this opinion. A duller collection of facts and dates, than Bishop Gastrell's we have never opened. They are not interesting in themselves, and they throw scarcely a spark of light on rural manners. To the local antiquary, indeed, they will be acceptable, and to the future historian of Cheshire they may be useful; but, with these exceptions, we do not think there is an individual to whom the volume will have any attractions. This fault, however, is not imputable to Mr. Raines so much as to the prelate; though, on second thought, as the latter never expected that his memoranda would meet the public eye, we may rather blame the Council of the Chetham Society for choosing a subject of such intolerable aridity.

But as the worst books are almost sure to contain something useful, so the dulllest may furnish something interesting. One general reflection must accompany the perusal of this volume,—the great number of local families that owe their wealth to the remarkable facility with which church leases were formerly granted. Thus,

"10th Jan. 26 Hen. VIII. the Abbot and Convent of Vale Royal demised to Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, Knight, and Thomas and John his sons, the Rectory of Castleton for 70 years, reserving the third part to the Vicar and paying to the Abbot 11*l.* per ann."

For a "consideration of seventy pounds," the Bishop of Chester (41 Eliz.) leased the rectory of Chipping "with all glebe and demesne lands," for ninety years, to a layman, who, in addition, was to pay a rent of twenty-five pounds annually, and to keep the chancel in repair; the salary of the officiating minister, however, was to be paid by the bishop. Very often the minister had no house to live in,—it being in possession of the lay proprietor. A great proportion of the livings now in the gift of lay patrons were evidently acquired in the disturbed period immediately following the Reformation. The smaller families obtained them as they could: the more powerful often set the clerical owners at defiance. Thus in regard to the cathedral lands of Chester (a very small portion of what had formerly belonged to the Abbey of St. Werburg), which Henry VIII. granted to the new Dean and Chapter, this royal charter of dotation did not prevent future encroachments on the said lands by the Earl of Leicester and others:—

"The Earl of Leicester became connected with the Cathedral lands in the following manner. Sir Richard Cotton, Comptroller of the household of Edward VI., having procured the imprisonment of his honest opponents, Dean Cliffe and two of the Prebendaries of Chester in the Fleet prison, induced them, by intimidation, to convey almost the whole of their estates to him, reserving only a yearly rent of 60*l.* 18*s.* 10*d.* to the Chapter. The two succeeding Deans endeavoured to set aside this bargain as extorted by compulsion, and at length the Chapter having discovered that the original grant to their predecessors by Henry VIII. was null, in consequence of the accidental omission of the word *Cestria* in the description of the grantees, made this circumstance known in a petition to the Queen,

wherein the law, the right, the regnant then claimed by Sir Richard, proceedings, the Fee Farm were likely favourite, Rector of the by giving his in consequence stopped, and the matter Privy Council surrendered who, in the Fee Farm Dean and Chapter's presence Elizabeth complaints had a special prudent as regard to are the patron

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wherein they prayed that as, in consequence of this law, the right was vested in the Crown, she would regrant these estates [which had been illegally obtained by Sir Richard Cotton,] to them, according to her royal father's intention. In the mean time Sir Richard, perfectly aware of the illegality of his proceedings, had sold the estates for small prices to the Fee Farmers. The purchasers, finding that they were likely to lose their cause, engaged the court favourite, Robert, Earl of Leicester, (who was Chancellor of the University of Oxford,) in their interest, by giving him six years' rent of the lands; the Earl, in consequence, procured the law proceedings to be stopped, and a commission to be issued for hearing the matter before himself and other Lords of the Privy Council. The result was, that both parties surrendered all the estates in question to the Queen, who, in the year 1579, granted them to the several Fee Farmers, subject to certain rents payable to the Dean and Chapter, which form the principal part of their present endowment."

Elizabeth had too much policy to stifle complaints by open force; but her bluff father had a speedy way of dealing with men so imprudent as to grumble when ruined. Thus in regard to Norton Abbey (the spoils of which are the patrimony of Sir Richard Brooke):—

"The Abbey was dissolved 28th Henry VIII. Edward, Earl of Derby, being the chief Seneschal of the house; the act was violently resisted by the Abbot, who was, in consequence, committed to prison by Sir Piers Dutton, a miserable minion of the Court, and at that time Sheriff of Cheshire. Henry VIII. being informed of the opposition of the Abbot and Canons to the rapacious designs of the Court, wrote to the Sheriff, 'yo' shall immediately vpon the right hearof, without any manor further delaye, cause them to be hanged as most arrant traitors in such sundry places as ye shall thinke requisite, for the terrible example of all others hereafter.' It seems doubtful, however, whether any part of this arbitrary and sanguinary order was carried into effect."

Mr. Raines is pervaded by the true spirit of ecclesiastical antiquity. He is very angry with all writers who approve such acts of spoliation, and with all who condemn the morals of the monastic recluses in the time of Henry VIII.—the alleged cause of the desolation that followed. He is specially wroth with Mr. Thomas Wright, who, in 1843, as our readers may remember, edited for the Camden Society 'Letters relating to the Suppression of Monasteries,' or, as we characterized the work (No. 851), 'Some Extracts collected from the Prosecutor's Evidence, in order to make out a case against the Monasteries,' and who availed himself of the opportunity to indulge in a sort of Sunday-school lecture by way of Preface, against which Dr. Lingard and other "Members at once of the Catholic Church and of the Society" protested, and for which the Council apologized:—

"In referring to the latter publication I cannot but deprecate the unjust calumnies which are once more brought forward against the inmates of the Religious Houses, in a short but caustic Preface. Neither do 'the depravities of the system' and 'the worst crimes laid to the charge of the Monks,' appear to be substantiated, on any allowable evidence, in the Letters themselves. As fair and honest testimony the Letters of the Visitors are worthless, being the productions of interested and mercenary partizans, who were sent to scrutinize the characters of individuals already condemned, in order that their possessions might be seized and their houses demolished. Every sound Anglican Churchman will hail the Reformation as a blessing; but to adopt the humane and sensible language of Thomas Hearne, the Antiquary, in his admirable Letter to Browne Willis, on the Dissolution and Destruction of Monasteries, 'What Burnet [and I would add, Wright] hath offered against them appears to me to be spite and malice. His proofs are weak and groundless. And I do not doubt, but that if every Monk's character were strictly and impartially examined, there is not one of them but what would appear more innocent and virtuous than any one of the Visitors, and it may be than any one of their other accusers.'"

On this point both Mr. Wright and Mr. Raines have reason on their side. Though the vices of the Monks were grossly exaggerated by interested visitors, they were still sufficient to inspire small sympathy for their fate. On the other hand, it is certain that their vices, even if truly represented, had no influence on their dissolution. Their houses were richly endowed; the King and his courtiers were poor; and in such an age, when Germany had set the example of successful spoliation, nobody could doubt of the result. It is equally certain that the people at large gained nothing by the change of landlords; ecclesiastical bodies have always been less rapacious than laymen.

The founder of the Grammar School at Northwich was a man after Bishop Latimer's own heart:—

"The Founder directs in his statutes, 'that upon Thursdaies and Saturdaies in the afternoon, and upon holy daies, the schollars do refresh themselves; and that a weke before Christmas and Easter, (according to the old custome,) they barre and keepe forthe of the schole the schole-master, in such sorte as other schollars do in great schooles. And that as well in the vacations as the other dayes aforesayd they use their bowes and arrowes only, and eschewe all bowlinge, cardinge, dyceinge, quiteinge, and all other unlawfull games.'—Quoted by Ormerod from *Bibl. Harl.* The recreations here enjoined will remind the reader of Bishop Latimer's praise of 'this singular benefit of God, shooting,' in one of his sermons before Edward VI. in 1549. He says, 'In my time my poor father was as diligent to teach me to shoot as to learn me any other thing, and so I think other men did their children. I had my bows bought me according to my age and strength: as I increased in them, so my bows were made bigger and bigger; for men shall never shoot well, except they be brought up in it: it is a goodly art, a wholesome kind of exercise, and much commended in physic.'"

For what little interest the preceding extracts may possess, we are indebted, not to the bishop, but to the editor, who proves himself well versed in local antiquities. He is capable of much better things than elucidating these dry records; and we hope that on some future occasion we shall have to praise him, not merely for the diligence of which he gives such unquestionable evidence, but for his choice of subject.

The Military Miscellany. By Henry Marshall, Deputy Inspector General of Army Hospitals. Murray.—*The New Navy List.* Conducted by J. Allen, Esq., R.N. Parker & Co.—*Duties of Judge Advocates.* By Capt. B. M. Hughes. Smith, Elder & Co.

THE value of these several works must be determined by those for whose especial use and information they are designed. Enough for us to observe that 'The Navy List' contains an outline sketch of the services of every officer, and has, therefore, an interest even for landmen; and the introductory chapter to 'The Military Miscellany' may be read with satisfaction by all. There was a time, as Mr. Marshall observes, when the whole male population may be said to have formed a disciplined army. Thus in the fifteenth century, James I., of Scotland, passed an act, whereby it was ordered that "every boy, when he came to the age of thirteen, should be obliged to practise archery at certain bow marks;" and in the next century, under Henry VIII., all male servants in England had to provide themselves with one bow and four arrows, which their master was to pay for; and the inhabitants of every city, town and place, were to erect butts, and practise shooting on holidays, and at every convenient time. Every person above seventeen, and under sixty years of age, who was convicted of being without a bow and arrows for one month, incurred a penalty of 6s. 8d. Thus also, in the reign of Elizabeth, who seems occasionally

to have mustered the defensive military force, the whole population was considered to form a standing army for the security of the realm; and a force could, in point of fact, be collected with great rapidity. This explains why Charles the First and the Parliament were equally anxious to have the control of the militia:—

"Charles I. came to the throne in 1625; and during this year (1641) the Parliament assumed the control of the militia, and issued orders for its being mustered and organised; and about the same period, the King issued Commissions of Lieutenancy to some of the nobility for a similar purpose, and thus began a long and memorable civil war. The citizens of London were, by this time, carefully trained in the use of the pike and musket. These trainings were originally very irksome to weary artisans and thrifty shopkeepers, there being a general muster once a year, while the drilling of individual companies took place four times a year, and lasted two days each time. The Puritans at first abhorred these warlike musters in the Artillery Gardens; but when they were taught from the pulpit, that their projected reformation could be accomplished only by carnal weapons, they crowded to the exercise with alacrity. The proud cavaliers laughed scornfully at these new displays of cockney chivalry, and were wont to declare, that it took a Puritan two years to discharge a musket without winking. But the laugh was turned against themselves after the civil wars commenced, when the pikes and guns of the civic militia scattered the fiery cavalry of Prince Rupert, and bore down all before them. * * The moral force of an army of this kind, could not be effectually resisted by mercenary troops. In some instances, the raising a body of troops appears to have been very expeditiously effected in Scotland. By order of Charles II., in 1651, the whole citizens of Perth marched out to the South Inch, where they cheerfully made choice of 100 men, who were to march to Burntisland to watch the motion of Cromwell's fleet and army. This company joined an army at Dunfermline, consisting of 3,000 men, which was attacked and defeated by a superior number of Cromwell's cavalry, 1,600 being killed, and 1,200 taken prisoners. At the Restoration, the national militia was re-established, and the chief command vested in the King. After a few years, however, the regulations for mustering the men ceased to be observed, and the trainings of the militia were for a long time discontinued in every part of England, except the city of London."

In relation to the now existing law regarding the militia, Mr. Marshall observes, that—

"In the event of this country being again at war, and it being deemed expedient, in consequence, to call out the militia for permanent service, I think it not unlikely that considerable opposition would be made to the measure. A community of which about two-thirds are employed in trade or commerce, is peculiarly unfavourable for recruiting an army by compulsion, or by a forced conscription. The ballot operates as a tax, and no tax can be more iniquitous and oppressive than where the objects are selected, not because they are able to pay, or because they have property to preserve or defend, but because they happen to be of a certain age, and possess the requisite strength. But the measure is still more indefensible, when substitution is permitted; it being no hardship for a rich man to provide a substitute; but personal service may irretrievably ruin a poor man, and to pay for a substitute may be far beyond his means. Whatever army may be deemed requisite for the defence of the country and its colonies, should be raised by Government, and the expense defrayed by the community at large. It is both unjust and cruel, to force individuals to serve in a military capacity, when a little better encouragement would induce a sufficient number to enter the service voluntarily."

Many expedients were, in former days, practised to procure troops for foreign service. Hume says, that the numerous armies mentioned by historians in those times, consisted chiefly of ragamuffins, who followed the camp and lived by plunder. The first standing army in modern Europe was established in 1488, by Charles VII.,

of France—it was for domestic, not foreign service. As another proof, how gradually the institution of a military force as a permanent body, such as we now have it, grew up, take the following extracts:—

"A.D. 1485.—On the 22nd August of this year the battle of Bosworth was fought, when Henry VII. became King of England. He was crowned upon the 30th of October; 'At which day,' says Bacon, 'as if the crown upon his head had put peril in his thoughts, he did institute, for the better security of his person, a band of fifty archers, under a captain, to attend him, by the name of Yeomen of his Guard; and yet, that it might be thought to be rather a matter of dignity, after the imitation of that he had known abroad, than any matter of diffidence appropriate to his own case, he made it to be understood for an ordinance, not temporary, but to hold in succession for ever after.' The bodyguard was regarded at first as a startling innovation, and excited some jealousy and disgust among the people. It does not appear that, before this period, the Kings of England had a bodyguard, or any considerable number of men armed and ready for immediate service in the field. Previously, however, to this reign, a species of troops, chiefly accustomed to the use of artillery, was maintained, and did duty in the principal fortified places either within or without the kingdom, such as Calais, the Tower of London, Portsmouth, the Castle of Dover, Berwick, Carlisle, and some other small forts; but it is probable that the chief part of these troops were mercenaries, not immediately raised by the Crown, but provided by contract or indenture by noblemen, as it was usual for men of rank in ancient times to engage to raise and keep up in time of peace the requisite number of men for the defence of particular garrisons. The Yeomen of the Guard of Henry VII. may undoubtedly be considered as the first standing or permanent military force which was hired and paid by the King of England. Queen Elizabeth increased the corps to 140 men, and King James to 200, which it appears never to have exceeded. When Henry came to the throne, he applied himself to amassing money and increasing the power and splendour of the Crown, and diminishing those of the nobility. Thus by statutes 11th and 19th Henry VII., all those who had any office, fee, or annuity by grant from the Crown, were required to attend the King in person when he went to war, and if they failed, all such grants were to be void. There were certain exceptions, such as spiritual persons (clergy), the Judges and high law officers: these exceptions eventually extended to the Clerk of the King's Council, to persons above sixty and under twenty-one years of age, and to cases where the patents mentioned the grant to be for a sum of money. Henry was no less attentive to the diminution of the numbers of the retainers of the great lords, than he was to the enforcing the attendance of those of the Crown. He passed an Act removing all obstacles to the alienation of lands, by which means the power of the nobility was greatly reduced, and feudal military service became, in the course of time, almost obsolete. In 1509, the Honourable Band of Pensioners was established, a corps which is of the same description as the Yeomen of the Guard."

In the course of time, the liberty of the subject becoming less regarded, the crown assumed the prerogative of pressing men for military service, both in and out of the kingdom, more particularly during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth:—

"The abuses to which this mode of oppression led, are admirably described by Shakspeare, in the first part of King Henry IV., Act iv., Scene 2., where he makes Falstaff describe his mode of raising recruits. 'Falstaff. I have misused the King's press damnably. I have got in exchange of a hundred and fifty soldiers, three hundred and odd pounds. I press me none but good householders, yeomen's sons; inquire me out contracted bachelors, such as had been asked twice at the bans; such a commodity of warm slaves as had as lief hear the devil as a drum.' Men, in fact, from whom he was likely to receive a considerable bribe to obtain their liberty. Falstaff's plan of proceeding is more fully and practically detailed in the second part of King Henry IV., Act iii.,

Scene 2. And it is much to be feared, that there were many persons who acted as Falstaff did, in all parts of the kingdom. Henry IV. died in 1413."

On the restoration of Charles II., the large amount of the military force in the kingdom presented a serious difficulty, only got rid of by fair words and fair promises addressed to them both by king and parliament.

"In 1661 the Life Guards were raised, the men being generally gentlemen who had fought in the civil wars; the same year the Oxford Blues were embodied. To these corps were added the 1st Royal Scots; the 2nd, or Queen's; the 3rd, or Old Buffs, in 1665, so called from their accoutrements being composed of buffalo leather, or, according to other authorities, from the colour of their facings; the Scotch Fusiliers, in 1678, so called from carrying the fusil, invented in France in 1630; and the 4th, or King's Own, raised in 1680. These regiments formed a force of about 5,000 men, and, under the name of Guards, they became the standing army of Great Britain. Charles was of opinion that if his father had possessed a small regular force at the beginning of the Civil War, he might easily have subdued the Parliament, and this conviction appears to have made him very anxious to keep up a respectable standing army."

It is not needful to detail this history further. The concluding part of the above extract shows the kind of principle established—that its operations have been modified has been owing to other conflicting influences. Our author has pursued the subject with impartiality and intelligence. The brutal and degrading punishments introduced into the army on the plea that it had in great part been recruited by felons and pressed vagrants, are properly and indignantly denounced.

Until the breaking out of the war with France in 1756, "hardly any effort," says Mr. Marshall, "was made to recruit the British army from Scotland, obviously from distrust of the loyalty of the inhabitants."

Mr. Marshall condemns, wherever he can, whatever has been or is oppressive or unjust in the mode of recruiting the army, and states it as his conviction, and from his position in relation to his subject, being "Deputy Inspector General of Army Hospitals," he may be understood to speak, in some degree, from experience—that "the usages of war in all armies are frequently but little influenced by rational, moral, or religious motives." But even here civilization and public opinion have not been wholly inoperative; and their ultimate triumph, however distant the date, is certain.

Library of Memoirs relating to the History of France during the Eighteenth Century. With an Introduction and Notices by M. F. Barrière—[Bibliothèque des Mémoires, &c.] Paris, Didot.

IN that sort of history, out of costume and off its attitude—wherein the formal teacher becomes a pleasant gossip, teaching all the while—which consists in letters, confessions and memoirs, the French are more rich than any other nation. Rejoicing in their treasures of this kind as mere food for the literary appetite, they also know their value as correctives of historic statement. Combining, in a great variety of cases, the interest of romance with the manner-painting of the novel, and the frank, lively, unhesitating egotism so congenial to a Frenchman's nature and so amusing to all, the flavour of these literary meats is not more agreeable than the condiments which compose it are of price. A body of literature like this, with its local lights falling everywhere, is an enemy to the historic system-monger or the party-record, more inevitable than all the powers of controversy wielding all the weapons of inference and deduction. There is no routing

these hordes of light skirmishers—no fencing with such "a cloud of witnesses." Accordingly, they have been objects of the national pride and delight; and collection after collection attests at once their popularity and their number.

The plan of the work before us is somewhat more eclectic. It is intended to embrace a series of readings in history—but without the ordinary repetition of the chapters. In short, M. Barrière's design is to give a connected historic illustration—by a selection, from the great body of French Memoirs, of such examples as are at once models in their kind and best adapted to his higher purpose. To make his series complete, the first of these conditions must, of course, occasionally give way—the graces not being always faithful attendants on the narrative muse. The work, for the present, is confined to the 18th century—extending over the period of dramatic passions and animated action which stretches from the going down, amid bigot chill and gloom, of the once brilliant sun of Louis XIV., to that great revolution which was the dawn of freedom to Europe. "Our Library," says M. Barrière, "whose first volumes will reproduce the Regency, will stop at the Directory—ending, as it began, with days of disorder, devastation and licentiousness."—We will observe to M. Barrière, by way of parenthesis, that if we wanted to justify the French Revolution and all its excesses and all its licentiousness to a reader to whom the whole subject should be new, we would be content to put the French Memoirs of the previous century into his hand, and rest the cause on their sole argument.—On this limited Memoir-field alone the writer says he could collect at least two hundred volumes like the present: he will be content with twelve. The first of these, now before us, opens with the charming narrative of Madame de Staël Delaunay; and contains, besides, the Memoirs of the Marquis d'Argenson, chapters from those of Madame the mother of the Regent, and fragments to illustrate—touches to fill in and complete the picture—extracted from the Memoirs of the Duke de Saint-Simon.

Of all this, pleasant gossip as it is, however, nothing will be new for our readers except the part which M. Barrière supplies. He meddles very little, indeed, with his monologists—satisfied, in general, to let them state their own case. But in the preface to the opening Memoir, he takes, from his editorial eminence, one lively glimpse over the field on which the reader is about to enter,—from which we may extract a few particulars that will hereafter help the reading of Mademoiselle Delaunay. Details that were familiar enough when the future Baroness wrote, have faded with age; and need restoring, with a view to the full intelligence of her pictures.

"Near the pretty village of Sceaux (says the editor), and on the slope descending into the valley which surrounds it, stretched formerly a vast domain which Colbert purchased from the M.M. de Geste. The old house in which they dwelt was speedily replaced by a magnificent château. The gardens were designed by Le Nôtre; and Girardon and Le Puget enriched them with their master-pieces. Here Colbert had the honour to receive Louis XIV. On the death of the celebrated Comptroller-General, the Duke du Maine made the acquisition of this princely abode—which he still further enlarged and embellished; and amid its sumptuous resources, the Duchess delighted to assemble all that was graceful in pleasure and spiritual in society. Poetical descriptions abound, wherein Aurora and Flora take upon themselves the office of adorning the gardens and park of Sceaux. * * But the nymph, the divinity of the scene—or as she was sometimes called, in better taste, the Baroness of Sceaux—was the Duchess du Maine. * * Anne Louise Bénédicte de Bourbon was the daughter of Henri Jules de Bourbon, whose father was the great Condé. M. le Prince, as Henri Jules was called by the Court, might have been a hero, like

his sire, had of mind and war. 'Ne of useless t about him as noble in tender with though often amorous over-princel tous wife of 'Monseigneur to be too ins to the last, of his ances displayed his Jules to be to bark aft Vemailles, a order by th to confine i the jaws th To this folly self dead: a that there co eat. A fool w his physical Monseigneur —as I have men who eat your Highn Convinced b contented; rious, who c feed at a v spiritual ban The convers as may well repetitions of 'Dialogues Bourbon, the resemble her sister, who n very little; timated daug their brother of their birth doll, if you Nantes; but Duchess du a physiognom son covered a less attractiv not be less temper, haug before the K ent and uns of her father to all about was avoided stions which, dered all th world was g great King as ve flattered and the t late, he impo the young; sided over pl on the othe of the counte etiquette. In for their pro palantry. * alive a word Music, poetr ions, and b pleasant abo tuelle said, 'why thing.' astronomers, and Dryada faasts."

M. Barrière the varieties and nights pretermitt— of a kind th

his sire, had it not been that, with courage, presence of mind and greatness of soul, he had no taste for war. "Never," says St. Simon, "was seen so much of useless talent and genius wasted." Everything about him was significant of his great origin. He was noble in his tastes, magnificent in his liberalities, tender with delicacy, and gallant with discretion,—though often, it must be owned, with audacity. His amorous inclinations then stooped with a familiarity over-princely. To him it was that the witty and virtuous wife of a commoner, whom he sued, replied,—"Monseigneur, your Highness has the condescension to be too insolent." His imagination remained lively to the last,—but his reason faltered, with years. One of his ancestors believed himself to be a bird, and displayed his wings;—it was the phantasy of Henri Jules to be a hound; and, in his troubled moments, to bark after the imaginary hare or stag. Even at Versailles, all which could be extorted from his disorder by the imposing greatness of the King, was to confine its demonstration to a mute motion of the jaws that imitated the barking of a voiceless dog. To this folly succeeded a worse;—he thought himself dead: and, reasoning logically enough, concluded that there could be, therefore, no reason why he should eat. A fool would have contradicted him: but not so his physician—who was a man of genius. "Certainly, Monseigneur," said he, "you are dead, and very dead—as I have good reason to know. But there are dead men who eat—some of them my acquaintances; and your Highness would do well to dine with them." Convinced by the authority of precedent, the Prince consented; and the physician looked out for *bons vivans*, who came all the way from the other world to feed at a very excellent table in this. At these *spiritual banquets* the ingenious doctor took his place. The conversation was often of a strange description,—as may well be supposed; and the Doctor used to give repetitions of it to his friends, which he called his "Dialogues of the Dead." Now, Anne Louise de Bourbon, the daughter of the dead-alive, was said to resemble her father in many things. Like her elder sister, who married the Duke de Vendôme, she was very little; so that Mademoiselle de Nantes, a legitimated daughter of Louis XIV., who had married their brother the Duke de Bourbon, used, in jealousy of their birth, to call them the *Dolls of the Blood*. A doll, if you will, as to dimensions, Mademoiselle de Nantes; but a very pretty doll, at any rate, was the Duchess du Maine! She was fair, with delicious eyes, a physiognomy full of movement, and her little person covered all over with graces. Her mind was not less attractive than her body. * * Her character must be less favourably judged. Uncertain in her temper, haughty in her manners, unrestrained even before the King, disrespectful to the Prince, indifferent and unsubmitive to her husband,—the memory of her father's dark moments suggested themselves to all about her, at times. Hence, all contradiction was avoided; and no objection was made to diversions which, however elegant and refined, were rendered all the more costly on that account. The world was growing weary, at Versailles, under the great King stricken in years. His reverses were to be flattered now, as his prosperity had formerly been—and the task was one less easy. Always absolute, he imposed his own superannuated tastes upon the young; and, in his court, a cold ceremonial presided over pleasure with incessant rule. At Sceaux, on the other hand, the same guests found the freedom of the country shaping and relaxing the character of etiquette. If the festivals of Sceaux were reproached for their profusion, at least they were not accused of gallantry. * * Never had malignity the most inquisitive word to utter against them on that score. Music, poetry, gaming, the drama, ingenious inventions, and ballets, varied the amusements of that pleasant abode. It was the Princess's desire, as Fontenelle said, that in her home "gaiety should be a witty thing." Enchanters, planets, goblins, reapers, astronomers, heroines, knights, Cyclops, Bohemians and Dryads figured by turns in these innumerable feasts.

M. Barrière goes on to give an enumeration of the varieties of diversion which enlivened the days and nights at Sceaux; but which we willingly pretermit,—because they are, for the most part, of a kind the ingenuity of which would be more

apparent in the performance than it is in the after-relation. Sooth to say, such things—like many a toy that has filled up the pleasantest hours of every man's life—will not bear cataloguing. The fine essential part which was at once the wit and the joy, has gone for ever with the hour and the occasion—the influence of place and companionship—never to arise at the bidding of the words which represent them, save for those only with whom such words touch the chord of memory. Many such phantoms a name conjures up for each of us, that in other ears is a sound as dull and inexpressive as these verbal records of the doings at Sceaux in ours. We know better than to judge their genius by their list. They may—and must—have been very pleasant meetings; the cause of wit, no doubt, like Falstaff, even where they do not seem to have been, like Falstaff, very witty themselves. Those of our readers, however, to whom the Polka and Mazurka are a present pleasure, may not be sorry to know by what titles that pleasure was called in the days of Louis Quatorze—for the difference here is only in the name. The thing is what it was in the Court of the Duchess du Maine; and is thus described by one of the most ingenious of the Princess's coadjutors—in a *divertissement*, entitled *l'Opérateur*. Drawing out a phial which is ticketed 'Spirit of Country Dances,' the principal character in the piece thus announces its qualities:—"The liquor which you see has virtues not to be described in a century. Give me the most delicate, staid, sedentary lady in the world, and let but a drop of this essence touch her person, in the region of the reins; and straightway you shall see her, more agile than any romp, now springing up, if it be hay-making time, to ride on the roof of a haystack,—now floating and fluttering like a balloon, through the *Furstenberg*, the *Forlane*, the *Pistolet*, the *Amitié*, the *Chasse*, the *Derviche*, the *Tricotets*, and *Madame de la Mare*."

Our readers may desire, however, to have some more tangible record of the humours that gave so much fame to the suppers of Sceaux;—for Madame de Staël does not dwell on such particulars. We will oblige, at the risk of disappointing them.—Epigram and lyric were, of course, not forgotten in a society so composed. To the Duke de Nevers, who had, says M. Barrière, a facility for making agreeable verses, the Duchess du Maine addresses the following stanza of her own composition:—

"Avec sa lyre
Quand Nevers chanta dans nos bois,
Il n'est point de cœurs qu'il ne tire,
Comme fit Orphée autrefois
Avec sa lyre."

Which may be thus freely rendered:—

When to his lyre Nevers, like Orpheus, sings,
He draws all hearts, like Orpheus, by its strings:—

An example suggesting that, amid all the prodigalities of the Duchess at Sceaux, that of originality need not be reckoned. There was better wine, however, at this harvest of wits. Among the eccentricities of the place, it was agreed, because the Duchess slept little, that sleep should be held in horror. "Tired nature's sweet restorer," as a philosopher of another class has called him, was treated as a hobgoblin, and set at defiance by every possible device. He was made, for instance, to figure in a masque, for the purpose of being exorcised after the following fashion:—

"Quitte nos champs délicieux,
Détestable sommeil; va dans de sombres lieux
Nourrir l'oisiveté des moines,
Augmente, si tu peux, l'embonpoint des chanoines;
Sur leurs sons engourdis va verser tes pavots.
Ce peuple, appesanti d'une indigne mollesse,
Croît ménager sa vie à force de repos;
Mais il est déjà mort par sa propre paresse,
Et tu préviens chez lui l'office d'Atropos."

The meaning of which conjuration is, we believe, preserved in the following translation:—

Hence, from our pleasant fields, detested sleep!
Haunt, with the lazy monk, the convent's gloom!
Feed the fat canon in his cloistered keep,
And tempt his senses with thy poppy-bloom!
These—seeking life from rest, where life is none,
Already, of their very sloth, are dead;
And Atropos's task is ready done,
When thou hast rocked the sluggard in his bed.

To furnish food for this great consumption of verses, says M. Barrière,—

"The princess—a lover at once of poetry and philosophy, Malherbe and Descartes,—assembled, at Sceaux, men of talent in every kind. In the first place, Malezieu, the oracle of the château,—called sometimes *the curé* and sometimes *Euclid*,—a fanciful poet, profound geometrician and learned man; then came the Abbé Genest,—who translated Descartes' *Natural Philosophy* into verse,—and who, a jockey before he was a churchman, now presided over the stables of the Duke de Nevers in a cassock; the president Hénault,—more a squire of dames than befits a judge; Destouches,—ambassador and poet; Fontenelle—now old; and Voltaire—in the glory of his youth; La Motte Houdard—who made charming verses upon friendship for the duchess; La Fare—whose somewhat tardy muse could sing, nevertheless, at times of other things than Cuius; the Abbé Chaulieu,—enamoured, at eighty, of Mademoiselle Delaunay; and finally Saint-Aulaire. Who knows not that the quatrains whose renown suffices for the glory of the latter,—that immortal, that triumphant quatrain which took the Academy by storm (very liable to be so taken),—was an impromptu offered to the duchess? The stanza is less known which he delivered; also impromptu, and also for the Duchess, on the systems of Newton and Descartes:—

"Bergère, détachons nous
De Newton, de Descartes;
Ces deux espèces de fous
N'ont jamais vu le dessous
Des cartes,
Des cartes,
Des cartes!"

—This time, the reader must dispense us from translating. The epigram has a French tail, not to be rendered by English pen or pencil: and they to whom the language is unknown must reconcile themselves never to reach the heart of its mystery,—which, in the case of the epigram, our readers know, is the *tail*. The penalty upon ignorance is, however, not very heavy in this particular case,—the mystery being nothing more than a mere play upon French words.—But we must take leave of the Duchess du Maine, who fills the leading place in the 'Memoirs of the Baroness de Staël,' with one other quotation:—

"At Sceaux, as we have seen, it was agreed to discredit sleep, in honour of the Duchess, who was a poor sleeper. It was for the purpose of amusing her sleepless nights that the *grandes nuits* were invented; festivals more sumptuous and ruinous than all the others,—over which presided alternately a king and a queen. On these occasions, a literary lottery was established. The letters of the alphabet were put into a bag, from which everybody had to draw one. He or she who drew C. owed the company a comedy; F. or S. made their holders liable, respectively, for a fable or a sonnet; while the unhappy wight who took an O. was in for an opera. This was a dear letter to the holder, indeed;—but the excess of the expense soon put an end to the *grandes nuits*. For the last of these, Mademoiselle Delaunay found—not the funds, but—the verses." [On this occasion, says a note, the princess gave her portrait, as Hebe, to Mademoiselle Delaunay; who thanked her in some couplets,—and the Duchess replied by the following:—

"Vous me payez avec usure,
Launay, d'un médiocre don;
L'original et la peinture
Ne valent pas votre chanson."

a compliment which may take the following English form:—

A trifling gift to one like you
Becomes a usurer's gain,
For dear were self and picture too
At price of such a strain.]

"Not knowing how to amuse herself next, the princess invented the order of the *Mouche à Miel*. On its decoration was a bee,—and, in allusion to the person of the foundress, this device: "*Piccola si, ma*

ja, pur, gravi le ferite."—Then, she appeared on the stage, with Baron, the famous actor,—playing *Azane*, in 'Joseph,' *Célimène*, in the 'Misanthrope,' and *Laurette*, in Quinault's *Mère Coquette*.—Weary of the stage, she was reduced to anagram:—"a sample of whose quality we find also in a note. The Abbé Genest had a preposterously large nose; and in the letters which compose his names, Charles Genest, the Duchess du Maine found, *Eh! c'est large nez!*—in English of equal value, 'Oh, what a big nose!'—and then, for a final change, she tried her hand at a conspiracy."

The subject of this conspiracy is known to all readers of French history; as are its details, in their most piquant form, to all who have read the recitals of *Mademoiselle Delaunay*. They who have not will do well to avail themselves of M. Barrière's edition.—We will borrow from him a few particulars relating to the fair memorialist herself. *Mademoiselle Delaunay* was the daughter of a painter,—and born in 1693. How she came into the service of the Duchess du Maine as waiting-woman, with an education such as hers had been, is written at length in her pleasant memoirs. The Duke du Maine died of the frightful effects of a cancer in the face; and by his death-bed, the pleasure-seeker of Sceaux rose into the attitude of a kind and noble woman. Through all his long and painful malady, she lavished on him the consolations of an affection at once courageous and tender. *Mademoiselle Delaunay* had been a faithful friend, to both, and before he died, the duke, who was colonel-general of the Swiss Guards, sought for an officer in that corps "who would marry a woman without birth, wealth, or youth." It was as much as the whole thirteen cantons could do, says *Mademoiselle Delaunay* herself, to answer such a demand. The thing was found, however; and the Baron de Staal—who was made *maréchal de camp* on the occasion,—gave his hand, name, and rank to *Mademoiselle Delaunay*. "Become," says M. Barrière, "lady of the duchess, instead of waiting-woman, she saw thenceforth, if not better, at least greater, society; and carried into her new world that charm of language—those forms of thought and expression, at once lively, new, delicate, and refined—which make of her memoirs one of the most living and attractive pictures of the period."

With the style and temper of Madame, the Regent's mother, our readers have already made some acquaintance in the pages of the *Athenæum* [Nos. 866, 867]. We are greatly tempted to add, to the sketches there given from her pen, one of the most extraordinary bits of portrait-painting, considering that the artist and the sitter are one, which we remember to have anywhere met with:—

"I must be very ugly (says the Duchess of Orleans). I have no features: little eyes, a short thick nose, long flat lips,—such things as these cannot compose a physiognomy. I have great hanging cheeks, and a large face. On the other hand, I am stunted in stature—short and thick. My body and thighs are short;—and, in one word, I am a really ugly little puss. Were it not that I have a good heart, I should not be endured anywhere. To discover if my eyes give signs of mind, it would be necessary to examine them with microscopes—or at least spectacles: without, it would be difficult to judge. It is probable that there are not in all the earth more horrible hands than mine. The king has often remarked them, and made me laugh heartily: for not being able conscientiously to flatter myself with the possession of a single beauty, I have adopted the plan of leading the laugh against my own ugliness,—and have had no lack of food for my mirth."

One who has so little indulgence for herself, observes M. Barrière, was not likely to be very indulgent towards others: and accordingly, our readers have heretofore seen that the duchess was not very measured in the expression of her

opinions,—a fact with which they make further acquaintance in these memoirs.

Registry of the Priory of All Hallows, near Dublin. Edited by the Rev. R. Butler, M.R.I.A. Dublin, printed for the Irish Archaeological Society.

THE Priory of All Hallows occupied the ground on which Trinity College, Dublin, now stands, and was originally founded by Dermot Mac Morough, King of Leinster, by whom the English invaders, under Strongbow, were invited into Ireland. It adopted from the first, or at least soon after its foundation, the more rigid rules of the Augustinian order as reformed in the convent of Arosia, and, like most of the papal institutions in Ireland, it was subjected to many vicissitudes of fortune, from the alternate fits of rapacity and devotion for which the Anglo-Norman invaders were distinguished. The wars of the Reformation so thoroughly revolutionized property and society in Ireland, that we have but few records of the state of that country under the Plantagenets; the English monarchs of that race were but deputy lords of Ireland, acknowledging the Pope as their suzerain; and many indications appear of repeated collisions between the papal and royal authority, and of contests between both and the Anglo-Norman barons, while we rarely find instances of direct collision between the Church or the State and the natives. We have a very scanty stock of materials for the history of Feudalism in Ireland; and we are grateful for any additions, however small, made to our limited supply. In the documents before us, which we must say are edited with great care, and illustrated with extensive knowledge of the subject, there are some incidental glimpses of the state of feudal society in Ireland, to which we shall, without further preface, direct attention.

The papal bulls confirming the privileges and securing the property of the Priory, do not differ from the usual forms of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, though they confer temporal immunities as well as spiritual advantages; for instance, the privilege of freedom from arrest is conceded to the inclosures of their houses and granges. The several grants of parishes and lands made at various times to the Priory show that the Normans brought with them into Ireland all the complexities of the feudal system—homage, wardship, suits of court and marriage—and that they had slaves, not merely villeins attached to the soil, but absolute slaves, who could be removed or sold without the land. We find Richard de Pheypo giving and granting, "for the sake of his soul and the souls of his ancestors," to the Priory of All Hallows, four serfs named Mackelegan, with all their future issue and progeny. Towards the close of the fourteenth, and at the beginning of the fifteenth century, it appears that ecclesiastical property ceased to be respected in the increasing troubles of the country. The remission of a fine was granted to the Canons in 1423, on their representing the ruin of their buildings, the hostile occupation of their lands, and various other oppressions to which the property of the Priory had been subjected. We have no means of discovering whether these injuries were inflicted by the Anglo-Norman barons, or by the native Irish; but we find that in the year 1380 the resentment of the latter had been provoked by the enforcement of that clause in the Statute of Kilkenny, which enacted that no Irishman, or enemy of the king, should be admitted into any religious house within the land of Ireland. It is probable that the Irish resented this declaration of what in those days was deemed the worst form of out-lawry, for in the year 1474 the Prior obtained

a special Act of Parliament, allowing him and his canons "to send and carry as well victuals as any other necessities to the said Irish, and might let to farm and sell the profits of their possessions to them, as often as they pleased, and might treat and be conversant with them as well in war as in peace, and that they might be godfathers to such without any breach of law." In fact, had not such relaxation been permitted, it would have been impossible for religious houses to retain any possessions beyond the precincts of the English Pale. Little more than half a century after receiving this unusual favour, the dissolution of the monastery was ratified in its chapter-house:—

"There, on the 16th November, 1538, in the presence of sundry persons, in a deed giving proof of the compulsion under which it was executed by the vehemence of the declarations of their free will, Walter Hancoke, Prior, Robert Dolyng, John Grogan, James Blake, and John Barret, the last Prior and the last Canons of All Hallows, assembled for the last time, and there signed, sealed, and delivered, to the Royal Commissioners, William Brabazon, Gerald Ailmer, John Allen, and Robert Fitzsimon, all hungry for monastic spoil, the surrender of their ancient priory. The form of surrender then executed omitted no property which could belong to the house. It specified the scite, ambit, and precinct, the whole church, belfry, and cemetery, all manors, messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions, and services, mills, meadows and pastures, woods and underwoods, houses, buildings, granges, granaries, stables and dovecots, fisheries, warrens, annuities, waters, ponds, rectories, vicarages, knights' fees, advowsons of churches, chapels, and chantries, pensions, portions, tithes, oblations, courts leet, and of frank pledge, and their profits and perquisites, and all other rights, possessions, and hereditaments, as well spiritual as temporal, in the counties of Dublin, Meath, Kildare, Louth, Tipperary, Kilkenny, and elsewhere in Ireland, belonging in any way to the Prior and Canons of All Hallows. Nor were these all. There were added their charters, evidences, writings and manuscripts, their goods, chattels, utensils, ornaments, jewels, and debts, all these were granted to the King, to be disposed of at his good pleasure, without appeal or complaint, and the unhappy men were forced to declare, that they thus deprived themselves of house and home of their own free will, and that they put an end to a venerable institution, to which they were bound by the most solemn obligations, certain just and reasonable causes thereunto moving their minds and their consciences."

In the following year the lands and advowsons of All Hallows were granted by Henry VIII. to the corporation and citizens of Dublin; and on the 21st of July, 1592, they were assigned over by the civic authorities to the provost, fellows and scholars of the College of the Holy and Undivided Trinity, for their use and that of their successors for ever.

We have borne frequent testimony to the meritorious labours of the Irish Archaeological Society, and have urged their claims to public support from all who feel interested not only in the past history, but in the future welfare of Ireland. The anomalies in the social condition of that country are the result of grievances of very ancient standing, and we must go back to the root in order to comprehend their nature. We are glad to see that the Society has received large additions to the number of its members, but we have still to regret the absence of many names which ought to appear in the list.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Long Engagements; a Tale of the Afghan Rebellion.—Overlaid as this single volume was, on its first appearance, by more voluminous narratives of every degree of goodness, badness and indifference, it proves, now that it is disinterred, to be better worth reading than nineteen-twentieths of those by whose superior bulk its modest worth was obscured. The plan is simple—told, in some sort, by the double title; for

Adela Balfour into unwelcome engagements, "an her on her pleasantly ghan rebell to comfort

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The Poetic William Coll Writings, by Samuel Willi nlon.—This what may b Through Mr. have selected tronized by g "sweet" Qu notices on a juncture in o mend him for ing the reader might have be ment of eithe Pansions can having precis and clearly c rist like Bu a false prop Garden. Th who is alway than correct never greater powers. In tautically car tration to the more length more than ou

Adela Balfour, the coquette who is to be lessoned into unworldliness and piety, is bound by a "long engagement" to one of the Earl of ———'s aversions, "an Indian officer," who, instead of greeting her on her arrival at Calcutta, is, unhappily, less pleasantly engaged in assisting to put down the Affghan rebellion. Adela, however, is not indisposed to comfort herself for her hero's absence, and

Take the good the Gods provide

her, by flirting as miscellaneous as possible—doing, in the process, no small harm to sundry military hearts, and a little, moreover, to her own reputation as a maiden of prudence and good feeling. Poor girl! she is terribly punished at last; having throughout her career of vanity had as foil a pattern sister of such "irrefragable propriety" (as "the Young Lady's Mentor" would describe it), that we really fancy her in part excused for her outbreaks. Mary Balfour was safe on board the ship, was safe in the Chowringhee Road,—from anything save the wisest of wise choices; but our novelist is a true novelist, rather than a veracious chronicler of the freaks of circumstance, in fitting her with a mate, who matches her "shade of dove-colour" with the most perfect agreement. From all this, it may be inferred that "the Affghan rebellion" plays, throughout our tale, the part of distant thunder, rather than of present vicissitude. There is, however, a final chapter of horrors, devoted to "the last night at Caubul," which might have been an after-thought, added to extend the story to the canonical length required by Messrs. Chapman & Hall's "Monthly Series."

Jane Bouverie; or, *Prosperity and Adversity*, by Catherine Sinclair.—In her preface to 'Jane Bouverie,' as also in her prelude to 'Modern Accomplishments,' Miss Sinclair complacently holds a court on the proceedings of most modern novelists:—taking now, as then, the side of Nature (and Grace) against conventional incident and accumulations of situation and surprise. Yet, trying the lady by her own test, 'Jane Bouverie' is as romantic in its ways as any of the moral tales she denounces. The heartlessness of her sister is only another form of that exaggerated villainy which all agree is exploded as a stimulant of interest. The heroine, moreover, who narrates her own experiences, is a virtuous woman, rich in that lacrymose and sentimental sort of resignation which has the fault of serving too many willing martyrs as a disguise to conceal disappointment, and intended to touch the "worldly" by mute reproach.

I can suffer and be still, is a motto, which, when perceptible as a principle of attraction, loses, to our poor apprehensions, one half of its worth. But since we are not here to argue touching the restraint of the passions, or the government of the heart, suffice it to say, that there is a strain in this book, which places it beyond "our philosophy," and, therefore, beyond our unconditional approval.

The Poetical Works of James Beattie, L.L.D., and William Collins, with Memoirs of their Lives and Writings, by Thomas Miller, and Engravings by Samuel Williams, &c., from drawings by John Absolon.—This is a handsome volume, belonging to what may be called 'Tilt's Illustrated Series.'—Though Mr. Miller is hardly the man we should have selected to write the life of the one Poet patronized by good King George, and Miss Burney's "sweet" Queen Charlotte,—or to offer critical notices on a lyricist who appeared at so critical a juncture in our literature as Collins, we must commend him for having obviously done his best, by offering the reader more facts and fewer "flowers," than might have been looked for. This said, a new judgment of either 'The Minstrel' or the Ode on the Pansies cannot be required from us,—both poems having precisely those merits which are easily seized and clearly comprehended. It is not so with a satirist like Butler, or a comicalist such as Cowley, or a false prophet like the writer of 'The Botanic Garden.' The new illustrations are by Mr. Absolon; who is always more pleasant or pathetic in sentiment than correct in his drawing—the disproportion being never greater than in the present specimen of his powers. In one respect, indeed, he has been gratuitously careless. The Minstrel Boy of his illustration to the thirty-third stanza,—besides labouring under length of limb which would astonish no one more than our artist, were he to rise from his recum-

bent posture,—is ten good years older than the Shepherd stripping leaning on his crook, described and portrayed stanza twenty,—or again, than the urchin musing apart from the village festival (p. 24): a design more to our taste is the pastoral vignette at the close of the eclogues. The illustrations to Collins, we are concerned to add, are sadly below par—witness the duet betwixt Hope and the oddly oblique Echo, from the Ode on the Passions.

Lectures on Mathematical Study, by J. R. Young.—These are lectures given on public occasions at Belfast College, by Prof. Young, than whom few men have a better right to be listened to, when mathematical teaching is the subject. They are plain and interesting, and would do many teachers good, particularly those who still teach arithmetic in the old fashion—by rote. Mr. Young says, he remembers the time when he could never work a question without asking the proposer *what rule is it in?* So do we: and what is more, we know a great many who, if they say they ever remember any other time, must be confounding memory with imagination of a strength much above proof. From the malpractices of rote-teachers we hope that the next generation of students will be entirely delivered. Nothing is easier to substantiate by proof than arithmetic: and "parents and guardians" may depend upon it that teachers who cannot, or will not, give the reason for the rules of this science will not be very likely to do it for anything else.

The Claim of the United States to Oregon.—The Oregon Question as it stands, by M. B. Sampson.—The Oregon Territory: a Geographical and Physical Account of that Country and its Inhabitants, by the Rev. C. G. Nicolay.—Of these works it will be enough to say, that the first contains the correspondence between the American Secretaries of State and Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary;—the second (which occupies barely a sheet) is inadequate to the subject;—and the last affords, perhaps, a sufficient general view of the question to merit public attention.

Dodd's Peerage, Baronetage, and Knighthood.—An annual publication, the merits of which have been recognized by the public.

The Ignis Fatuus, Will-o'-the-Wisp, and the Fairies, by J. Allies, Esq.—Too meagre to afford any real information as to these once popular subjects of superstition. And were the limits ten times more ample, we know not that a new book respecting them is wanted.

English Synonymes Classified and Explained, with Practical Exercises, by G. F. Graham.—This elementary book is intended for the young, and it is impossible not to praise both the design and the execution. It fills a chasm in our scholastic literature. Previous to this publication, we had but three works of the kind, whether for young or old students (Trussler, Taylor, Crabb), and not one of them is practical enough for elementary purposes.

Eclogæ Ciceroniæ: a Selection of Orations, Epistles, and Philosophical Discourses of Cicero, &c.—The pieces are well enough selected; but there is not a single note to explain the occasion and purport of each piece, and very few indeed, to illustrate the allusions and arguments of the greatest writer of Rome. For what class of readers is the book intended? For one, it appears, in the University of Edinburgh. If with such meagre help as are here given they can fully understand, they are better scholars than we have on this side the Tweed.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Archæological Journal, Vol. II. 8vo. 11s. 6d. gilt.
Bagshaw's Glance at Calvinism, 8vo. 2s. 6d.
Bartlett (Dr.) On Measles, or Indian Corn, 12mo. 4d.
Brogden's Catholic Safeguards, Vol. II. 8vo. 14s. 6d.
Bower's (M. N.) Memoranda in Anatomy, Surgery, and Physiology, 2nd edit. 32mo. 6d. 6d.
Bonds (Rev. T.) Aids to a Holy Life, 18mo. 1s. 6d. 6d.
Bibby's and Ridgway's Infant Teacher's Assistant, 10th ed. 12mo. 4s.
Brewer's (Rev. Dr.) System of Book-keeping by Single Entry, 12mo. 2s. 6d. 6d.; Key to ditto, 12mo. 2s. 6d. 6d.; Sets of Account Books for ditto, folio, 5s. 6d.
Boyle's Court Guide, 1846, 24mo. 5s. 6d.
Book of Ecclesiastical, royal 32mo. 2s. 6d. 6d.
Captivity Maiden, a Tale of the Thirteenth Century, 12mo. 2s. 6d. 6d.
Cheetham's Psalmody, by Holkhead, enlarged edit. 4to. 18s. 6d.
Comprehensive Atlas, with Copious Index, 8vo. 15s. 6d.
Cheever's Defence of Capital Punishment, post 8vo. 4s. 6d. 6d.
Dale's (Rev. T.) Domestic Liturgy and Family Chaplain, 4to. 21s. 6d.
Dudley's (Rev. J.) Naology; or, a Treatise on the Origin, &c. of Sacred Structures, 8vo. 12s. 6d.
Duff's Library of Ireland, No. X. 'Poets, &c. of Ireland,' Vol. I. 8s. 6d.
Corney's (Miss) History of France, new edit. 12mo. 2s. 6d.
Forryth's (late R.) Observations on Genesis and Exodus, &c. 8s. 6d.
Grandin's Le Petit Prescripteur, 8th edit. square, 3s. 6d.
Grandin's Conversations Familiales for Young Ladies, 6th ed. 2s. 6d.
Gailhabaud's Ancient and Modern Architecture, Second Series, with 40 engravings, 4to. 2l. 12s. 6d. 6d.
Gray's Elegy, illuminated by Owen Jones, royal 8vo. 31s. 6d.

Hamilton's Cabinet of Music, for Voice and Piano-forte, 12s. 6d. 6d.
Hook's (Rev. Dr.) Church Dictionary, 5th ed. enlarged, 12mo. 10s. 6d.
Horne's Introduction to Holy Scriptures, new edit. 5 vols. 8vo. 63s. 6d.
Keith's Arithmetic, by Maynard, 14th edit. 12mo. 4s. 6d. 6d.
Lowe's Earthwork Tables, 8vo. 3s. 6d. 6d.
Lesson (John) On Functional Derangements and Organic Diseases, Part I. 8vo. 6s. 6d.
Life in California, by an American, plates, post 8vo. 7s. 6d. 6d.
Lane's (Rev. B.) Mysteries of Tobacco, 12mo. 3s. 6d.
Mantel on Animals; or, a Glimpse of the Invisible World, 10s. 6d.
Nesbit's Arithmetic, by Maynard, 14th edit. 12mo. 4s. 6d. 6d.
(Newby's Standard Library Edition) 10s. 6d. 6d.
Neison's Observations on Odd Fellows, 8vo. 1s. 6d.
One Hundred Skeletons and Sketches of Sermons by Wesleyan Ministers, 12mo. 4s. 6d.
Old Man's Rambles, new edit. 18mo. 5s. 6d.
Parley's Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, new ed. square, 7s. 6d. 6d.
Parley's Universal History, new edit. with maps, square, 4s. 6d. 6d.
Pericles, a Tale of Athens, 2 vols. crown 8vo. 18s. 6d.
Pedestrian, and other Reminiscences at Home and Abroad, by Sylvanus, crown 8vo. 10s. 6d. 6d.
People's Gallery of Engravings, Vol. III. 4to. 22s. 6d.
Rodwell's (A.) Child's First Step to Scottish History, 16mo. 4s. 6d. 6d.
Royal Blue Book, April 1846, 24mo. 5s. 6d.
Shuttleworth's Remarks on Landscape Painting, 8s. 6d. 6d.
Strachan's (J.) Agricultural Tables, 4th edit. 12mo. 2s. 6d. 6d.
Vernon's (E. J.) Guide to the Anglo-Saxon Tongue, 12mo. 5s. 6d. 6d.
Walbran's Antiquities of Gainsford, Part I. 8vo. 5s. 6d.
Wolff's (Dr.) Mission to Bokhara, 3rd edit. 1 vol. 8vo. 18s. 6d.
Wither's (G.) Hymns and Songs of the Church, by Rev. H. Havergal, 18mo. 2s. 6d. 6d.
Will's (H.) Course of Qualitative Analysis, with Preface, by Baron Liebig, 8vo. 6s. 6d.
Wyse's (F.) America and its Resources, 3 vols. 8vo. 42s. 6d.

LEARNED AND LITERARY SOCIETIES.

WE return once more to the hint which we gave, last week, at the close of our remarks on the subject of the Learned Societies; because we are confident that the principle of Association, applied as we there recommended, will be found an economical resource in more ways than one. Not only will the great Scientific Institutions be maintained at far less cost than now; but we believe that, for the diminished outlay, the nation will have a much larger scientific result. As the strength of these bodies is individually in association, so we foresee an aggregation of strength from an association of the whole. Societies, like individuals, are less likely to go to sleep in company; and the indolence of one receives a wholesome reproof from the activity of another. Nay, even where, taking the most unfavourable view, the lethargy is becoming general, there is still a use in neighbourhood; because the individual is very likely to be made suddenly conscious of the fact by looking at his companion,—and chartered bodies may awaken each other by their very snoring. The fact is, there is something unscientific, to begin with, in the adaptation of a machinery one degree more costly or cumbersome than is needed for the end proposed. With men who are really in earnest, the greatness of the result should serve altogether to conceal the means expended in producing it,—instead of its insignificance calling attention and giving prominence to the extravagant cost. Not to say that mere inaction is not the object for which any of these Societies was endowed or established, such a result, if it were wanted, could surely be had for a less price than that at which the Royal Society of Literature, the Geographical, and others now offer it. Bodies like these, where they do little or nothing towards the purposes of their institution, are sinners not only negatively but positively. Their existence is even more injurious than would be non-existence; and the very largeness of their means, which should have been the source of the good, becomes a source of the evil which they produce:—because, in view of their resources, a hasty inference is sometimes drawn that, where they have effected so little, there is little to effect; and because they occupy ground which, in their absence, might have been taken advantageously by others.

It is true, nevertheless, that this last influence has not had all the force which might have been feared. The indolence of some of these bodies has suggested partial cures:—of course, however, at a waste of means; the public paying, in the second instance, to have that done which, in the first, they had paid to have neglected. Society after Society has sprung up, to do the omitted work of the Royal Society—of the Linnean has been born the Zoological—of the Society of Arts the several ones of the Architects and Civil Engineers—and to the slumber of the Antiquaries we owe the Archaeological Institutes and Associations of to-day. Indeed, the principal operation of the wealthy old Societies appears to have been that of propagating others; and sending out the various members of their families to make their own shift in the world. This organized division of the comprehensive objects embraced in the intention of the parent institutions is, however, for good,—if the parents would help to provide for their off-shoots,

and the families hang together: and leaving it as we find it—or even encouraging its extension—we would, in each case, re-attach all the separate members to the original Institution, by the principle of association which we have recommended. It is utterly unphilosophic, as regards themselves, this absolute separation of the parts; which overlooks the necessary connexion of all the sciences, and the incidental illustrations that they offer to one another: and uneconomic, as regards the public, that, while the old Societies are content to be represented by their funds, not their science—their means to do, not what they have done—any working association which springs up to-day must look out for a complete establishment of its own, while so much machinery, already paid for, is lying idle. In our scheme, the several learned bodies would form one great Institute,—sustaining and illustrating each other. The several branches of the same science we would gather into families, assemble under a common roof, and have waited on by the same servants. The Archaeological Institute and the Archaeological Association should fraternize, and the Antiquaries take them home:—the Geological, with apartments found it by the government, should take the Geographical, &c. under its wing:—the Society of Arts, with one of the noblest mansions in London, should shelter the Civil Engineers, the Architects, &c.—so intimately connected in genius and so widely separated by the fact:—the Linnean should maintain the Zoological, Botanical, Microscopical, Ornithological, Entomological, and all others that now do its work:—and so forth, for the present.

The perfection of this scheme would go one step further:—while thus assembling the several sections of the several sciences under their proper academical heads, it would assemble the sciences themselves at a common point, as in the Institute of France. But a complete measure like that belongs only to an original organization, and would now be a waste of existing means. Nor is it needed:—the spirit of emulation and association will be sufficiently awakened to ensure the Societies working together, when each is working vigorously within itself. No part of the funds contributed for scientific knowledge would thus be wasted in detached efforts and repetitions of the same machinery. Many scientific projects, which are unable separately to struggle into life for want of means to establish all the costly apparatus for their single use, would affiliate themselves as contributors to the family stock. One or two large halls for general meetings would serve the common purposes of all; and a separate committee-room suffice for the private business of each. The Societies, too, might have each its own library, or its separate compartment in one general library; and in this department especially the value of a general organization is very conspicuous, in the great saving which might be effected by retrenching repetitions. For instance, to each one of the several departments of science belongs of right a library which is strictly special; yet no library could be useful that should be limited within such specialties. The sciences, and the various branches of the same science, include so much of knowledge that is common to all, and so illustrate each other by what is different, that corporate science has to spend her funds many times over in providing the same books for the various members of her scattered family. In the arrangement proposed, the special library of each body is but a department of a great general collection—under one roof—admirably classed by the very conditions of the case—ready for easy and instant reference—where each supplies to all and all to each the complement and entirety of scientific lore. Each body has, in fact, a general library at the mere cost of its own special one:—the saving of expense and the acquisition of strength seem to us so striking as to need no enforcement beyond the mere proposition. One general Secretary, as we said last week, for the combined Institute,—each body having a clerk to attend to the mere drudging details and act as curator of the special library,—and one general Librarian,—would be not only a sufficient ministry but an admirable organization. There is, of course, nothing to prevent learned Societies from entering into the combination. The greater the multiplication of bodies—which are figures on the credit side of an account—the larger the balance to the

gain of science. By means of that gain, the Societies less competently endowed will be able to effect the objects for which now they strive in vain; while the richer Institutions will have an increasing fund for the purposes which they have at heart, and a great accession of power in the learned and scientific atmosphere by which they will be surrounded.

But as our hurried suggestions last week have been echoed and applauded with more general good will than we anticipated, we must make room for a few extracts from some of the many letters which we have received.

Your well-timed remarks on the constitution and management of the Literary and Scientific Societies of this metropolis are calculated to draw attention to the root of the evil under which, not one alone, but all, of these institutions are suffering. It is, as you say, in the defective machinery which sets to work so feebly the springs of these Societies, that we must look for the cause of their decline. The effect, indeed, is but too apparent, in their utter inability to carry out the principles which are the declared object and purpose of their formation. * * In the organization or machinery of all these Societies, there is invariably something which partakes more or less of the character of a job. On their first formation, there are offices to be filled,—for which every member is eager to nominate one of his own friends; and thus, in the outset, there is a fruitful theme for difference of opinion, rival interests, and party feeling. This has been the case in more than one. Then, the establishment must be respectable and comfortable—and forthwith there is a large annual disbursement, with no adequate benefit in return. And what is far worse than all, is the fact that, in the leading Societies, the tone is given by a few individuals. Exclusive views prevail on the subjects for the promotion of which the Society was formed; which views (narrow-minded, because exclusive,) monopolize the field of inquiry, and hedge it round by their injudicious restrictions. This, to those behind the scenes, is known to be one great cause of the numberless small Societies which have sprung up of late years. * * It is, with me, a question, whether any good whatever has, for a quarter of a century, resulted to science by the actual operations of any even of the best endowed Societies? * * The state of the Geographical is indeed deplorable; and is a case in point where, with a good income, their efforts in the cause are paralyzed and cramped by the defective working and cost of their inefficient machinery. In this case, too, it is the more to be regretted, since this Society should rank the very first as a practical and useful association,—is calculated to render the most important services, by promoting the knowledge of the physical geography of the globe and the progress of civilization. Yet, we see its state of powerless inactivity; induced by causes which we must certainly attribute to defects in its constitution, rather than to the indifference of the public to the cause of Geographical science. Your remedy is the true one—many of the Societies must be amalgamated, since they merely investigate the branches of one science. * * This plan is worthy of anxious attention, and connected with a judicious reform in the organization of the Societies.

I remain, &c. F. F. F.

12th April.

I am truly glad that you have undertaken to rouse "The Literary and Learned Societies" from the lethargy into which many of them are falling. It is really lamentable to compare the doings of these bodies with the splendid promises set forth on their incorporation. There is, however, among the chartered associations, one, not included in your category of delinquents, which has singularly neglected the intentions of its founders. The body I allude to is the Zoological Society,—incorporated, some fifteen or twenty years since, by Royal Charter, expressly for the promotion of zoology as a branch of natural science. It was ostensibly a voluntary secession from the Linnean Society; the resources of that ancient and respectable body being, it was thought, inadequate to the increasing requirements of both the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and the study of each being represented by distinct classes of investigators. The new society was established under the presidency of the Earl of Derby, for Zoology. A museum of natural history was to be formed; as

also a collection of living mammalia and birds, after the model of the Jardin des Plantes,—with this difference, that, having no supplies from government, the expenses of exhibiting were to be in some measure provided by the admission of the public at the charge of one shilling, upon the production of a passport signed by one of the Fellows. The scheme was eminently successful:—the gardens were thronged as a place of fashionable resort; and a splendid fund was thus indirectly presented for the promotion of a science in which we are lamentably in arrears of our continental neighbours. The scientific meetings held in Bruton-street were attended by all the leading zoologists; the tables were loaded with specimens; and a valuable correspondence was opened with contributing naturalists in all parts of the world. Scarcely a meeting passed without some new discovery in this comparatively new pasture being communicated orally by members present, or by letter from those correspondents whose residence in the tropical countries afforded such splendid opportunities for observation. As a proof of the Society's usefulness, several quarto volumes of Transactions, illustrated in the most costly style, have been published; independently of the Proceedings, containing papers, both general and anatomical, of the highest zoological interest, by Prof. Owen, Bell, Bennett, Broderip, Yarrell, and others scarcely less distinguished in this branch of scientific inquiry. A great desideratum was also being furnished in the formation of a zoological library, for the purpose of reference. Such was the Zoological Society:—"look you now what follows."

The rooms in Bruton-street had to be given up; a house was taken in Leicester-square—and the collections were exhibited in a tolerably spacious gallery. But the meetings began to exhibit a lack of interest:—the fashionable attendance at the gardens assumed such an enticing air of importance, that the attention of the council was almost solely directed to the menagerie and promenades. The scientific business was entirely neglected. The house in Leicester-square had now to be abandoned; and it was proposed to take temporary apartments, until some eligible premises should be obtained to recover the glory of the *soirées*. A small first-floor was accordingly taken in Pall Mall: but all zeal for matters of zoological research had evaporated from those in office,—the collections were all packed away in the dark,—the curator was sent to shoot wild ducks in the interior of Africa, as the Society's representative in the unfortunate Niger Expedition,—and the correspondence with our friends in the tropics gradually died away, for lack of encouragement. Besides this, valuable specimens of natural history were lost, or stolen, from the museum (*Tellina Burnettii*, *Cardium Belcheri*, ex. gr.) and six elaborate anatomical drawings contributed by Prof. Owen, on two extremely rare genera of Mollusca, the *Lithedaphus* and *Phaladomya* were lost—possibly never to be replaced.

The authorities began now seriously to consider of the fallen prospects of the Society as a scientific body; and a splendid suite of apartments was opened in Hanover-square. But the glory is departed: a banquet of mahogany tables and russet leather seats, is fortnightly prepared,—but where are the guests! The meetings are a dumb show; and merely bolstered up by a publication-committee of *soi-disant* naturalists, which is summoned a few minutes prior to the hour of assembling,—and joined, at that hour, by one or two pseudo-zoological stragglers. The Zoological Society, as at present constituted, is not worthy to rank with "The Literary and Learned;" and unless some efficient change be introduced, the sooner it is dissolved, and the farce ended, the better.

F. Z. S.

Your excellent remarks, of Saturday last, on scientific and other Societies, admit of extended application. Amongst the numerous Societies of the metropolis, there is hardly one that is doing more than keeping up a place for a fractional portion of its members to meet monthly or fortnightly; and yet, the money that is spent, in the aggregate, by these Societies, is sufficient, if judiciously applied, to lead to the most important results. Your suggestion for the association of half-a-dozen of these Societies is most valuable. At the present moment, not one of them is prosperous,—all are more or less cramped, for want of funds to carry out the few objects to which the ambition of their councils lead

them to aspire to be benefited Society. T of superannuating a part of the ing its Fellow one of the can be imag library; and youth, it w Now, what but the stud every depa itself, in Lo Society, a l an Entomol Society,—el Society was bodies all r separate mu —when suc members th together. —same narrow driving away of our old subscription the letter of and gone.— new societie sacrificed to extension.—

It is with letter; but temper in w do so, we sh ings, to stran

Sir,—You (Saturday), the Royal Geo from the Soci from doing so cannot allow to hint a susp members of f whose person this saving cl officer, and, e his honour an this admirable flippant immen eager for gain consideration what Society I declare you desire, therefo quitting immu persons and fa ination of mean inuinate.

This, we s om's new an all like th sum." We ling fact, tha from what h himself! T which look tation. We of the mem thus, as he is the Council and therefo most haltin have stunn exclusion fr but which cretaries of Statistical s But, in tru plication rais to have esca fed to the denta, as the bers of Com secretaries, not only of all that hav ment began spectus first persons so

them to aspire. As an instance of how societies might be benefited by association, let us take the Linnean Society. This Society is at present leading a kind of superannuated existence; now and then publishing a part of a volume of its Transactions,—and treating its Fellows, once a fortnight during the season, to one of the most uninteresting evening sittings that can be imagined. No books are purchased for the library; and were it not for the reputation of its youth, it would probably fast sink into non-existence. Now, what is contemplated by the Linnean Society but the study of natural history?—and yet we have every department of this study with a society to itself, in London alone. Thus, we have a Zoological Society, a Botanical Society, a Geological Society, an Entomological Society, and a Microscopical Society,—embracing objects for which the Linnean Society was especially formed. Why should these bodies all meet in different parts of London—have separate museums, libraries, curators, and secretaries,—when such is the nature of the pursuits of their members that they might be much better pursued together. * * * But I fear it is too late. The same narrow, contracted spirit which has always been driving away the younger and more active members of our old societies,—the spirit that increases their subscription, forbids discussion, and adheres to the letter of their laws when their spirit is all dead and gone,—will reject such a proposition; and more new societies will be formed, till Science itself is sacrificed to the folly of making societies for its extension.—Yours, &c. An F.L.S.

It is with regret that we publish the following letter; but it is quite obvious, from the tone and temper in which it is written, that, if we declined to do so, we should subject ourselves, motives, and feelings, to strange misinterpretation.—

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,—You have thought proper, in your last *Athenæum*, (Saturday, the 11th inst.), to publish certain strictures upon the Royal Geographical Society; but as I have no authority from the Society to notice these as its organ, I must refrain from doing so. There is, however, one passage which I cannot allow to pass in silence. You say you “do not mean to hint a suspicion against the honour or conduct of the members of the Council of the Society. They are all men whose personal integrity is beyond suspicion.” But from this saving clause you exclude the Secretary: he is a salaried officer, and, *ergo*, (such is the usual logic of the *Athenæum*) his honour and integrity may be fairly suspected; and upon this admirable *argument* you presume to throw out certain flippant innuendoes tending to represent him as a person eager for gain, and whose zeal is regulated by pecuniary considerations. I, Sir, am Secretary to the Royal Geographical Society; and if I am the person to whom you allude, I declare your insinuation to be a foul calumny, and I desire, therefore, that you do retract this insinuation, or, quitting innuendo and garbled statement, you do mention persons and facts, and substantiate, if you can, the accusation of meanness you have so unjustifiably presumed to insinuate. I am, &c.

J. R. JACKSON.

This, we suppose, is a specimen of Colonel Jackson's new and improved “logic”;—assuredly it is not at all like the old, or like “the usual logic of the *Athenæum*.” We must first observe the curious and startling fact, that the Colonel does not deduce the offence from what we said, but from what he is pleased to say himself! The words between inverted commas, and which look so very like a quotation, are not a quotation. We did not speak of “the honour or conduct of the members of the Council of the Society,” and thus, as he infers, “exclude the Secretary,”—but “of the Council of the Geographical, or any other Society;” and therefore, had we been quoted correctly, the most halting logic, whether new or old, could not have stumbled over a personality. If there be any exclusion from which offence might be deduced,—but which we deny,—it applies equally to the secretaries of the Royal Society of Literature, the Statistical Society, and every other referred to. But, in truth, if the Colonel be right, the suspicion raised is much more comprehensive; and, to have escaped it, we ought formally to have testified to the honour of all Presidents and Vice-Presidents, as well as members of Council,—of all members of Committees and Sub-Committees,—of all secretaries, librarians, clerks, custodes, &c.; nay, not only of all these—not only of all that are, but of all that have been—for our outline of mismanagement began from the beginning, with the very prospectus first issued. Seriously, it is painful to see persons so self-engrossed as to suppose that, for one

moment, they could have occupied the thoughts of a writer who was discussing a great question, affecting great interests. However, to guard against like interruptions for the future, we now inform the Secretary of the Geographical, and all other Secretaries whom it may concern, that, in reference to the question under consideration, and which we mean to keep under consideration, we care not a rush about his or their “honour and integrity.” It is the salaries, and the aggregate amount of these salaries, that trouble us; and that only so far as it is a part of a system which has brought so many Societies, that started on a noble career of usefulness, to a state of pitiful decrepitude and insignificance.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

At the monthly Council of the Shakespeare Society, held on Tuesday, some new particulars were communicated respecting persons who were, in all probability, members of the family of our great dramatist. It is known that William Shakespeare had a brother Edmund, an actor at the Globe and Blackfriars Theatres, although he never attained much distinction. It now appears that there was also an Edward Shakespeare, a player, and not at the theatres to which William and Edmund belonged, but at a rival house,—the Fortune. The intelligence regarding Edward Shakespeare does not redound much to the credit of his morals; and it applies to the year in which Edmund Shakespeare died and when William Shakespeare was enjoying the highest reputation. This discovery, of course, gives rise to the question, who this Edward Shakespeare was,—and whether any, and what, relation to William? We find no trace of his registration at Stratford, or in London; and the information, of which we are now put in possession for the first time, does not show decisively whether he was young or old in 1607,—probably the former. Further matter of speculation is afforded by another new fact, made known on Tuesday; viz., that a Thomas Shakespeare was married, in 1618, in the parish in which the Fortune theatre stood. Was he son to Edward Shakespeare,—and was he at all related to William? The marriage was by licence; for it has been preserved, as if the parties were of some wealth and respectability. Other novel particulars, deserving record, were laid before the Council,—and on unquestionable evidence: such as, that Nathaniel Field, the rival of Burbage, and the actor in many of Shakespeare's dramas, was actually the son of John Field, a puritan minister, and a violent and bitter enemy of theatrical performances,—that Ben Jonson was re-married in 1623;—that John Lowen, the famous actor, who lived until near the close of the Civil Wars, was the son of a carpenter, and that he was born in 1576,—a date not hitherto ascertained. These points, and others, will be included in a volume now in the press, and soon to be issued to the members of the Shakespeare Society,—consisting of “the lives of all the original actors in Shakespeare's plays.” In connexion with the history of our early stage, several new and valuable documents were placed at the disposal of the Council: including Royal Patents, by James I., to various companies of actors,—and a curious and important instrument, bearing date in 1582, by which Queen Elizabeth gave authority to Edmund Tylney, the Master of the Revels, to press into her service, for her disport and amusement, not only all “players of tragedies, comedies, and interludes,” but all “play-makers;” and, upon refusal, to attach and commit them, without bail or mainprize, for any time the Master of the Revels might think proper. Of this most arbitrary commission we have had no previous notice; and it is of the more importance, because, in the year following its date, the Queen selected a company of players of her own from the very parties thus compelled “to appear and recite their productions” before the Master of the Revels. The two leaders of the Queen's company were Robert Wilson and Richard Tarleton,—both of them famous comedians, but especially the last, whose memory was long cherished by the people. Taverns adopted his picture as their sign, and tokens were struck, as locally current money, bearing his effigy. One of these numismatical curiosities has been handed down to our day; and it was exhibited to the Council, and a magnified engraving ordered to be made from it, as an illustration of the next volume of ‘The Shake-

peare Society's Papers.’ These ‘Papers’ consist of articles relating to our old drama and stage, too short to form works of themselves. Another tavern-token, of the Black Dog of Newgate, which existed in 1598, was also shown; and as there was an old play, the scene of which must have been laid there, a similar order was made for engraving it.

We made some remarks, last week, on that decision of the Trustees of the British Museum in virtue of which no part of the Catalogue is to be given to the public until the whole is ready for press; a decision which, on the scale of progress hitherto observed, removes, as we showed, this greatly needed work beyond the views of the living generations. In case the Trustees should be induced hereafter to revise that decision, there is another subject on which we are anxious to offer a suggestion;—and it has reference to the intended price of the Catalogue. Treasures like those collected in the Library of the British Museum are not merely objects of national display,—nor, like the wealth of a miser, yielding their value in the mere consciousness of their possession. They are for use—to render, if adequately invested, incalculable interest. It is not, however, they to whom a well assorted catalogue of the library is most important who can best afford to pay for it an extravagant price. An “extravagant price” is a term having relation as much to the means of the purchaser as to the value of the thing purchased; and the sum intended to be put upon this Catalogue will, in spite of the desire to possess it, amount to an absolute prohibition in a very great number of the cases where its possession is of most importance. To the literary man in London, and still more so, to him in the provinces, the means of ascertaining what the National Collection affords calculated to assist his useful purposes should be at hand, without the waste of time incurred in the perhaps fruitless journey from his own study. The British Museum should have to be resorted to by those only who know beforehand that they will there find what repays the resort;—and the new Catalogue, or any part of it which we may be able to obtain, should therefore be within the student's reach at the price of paper and print. Some scheme might be proposed by which this popularity of distribution might be combined with an accumulation of the fund applicable to the other items of cost, greater, we should think, than will be obtained by the imposition of an extreme price. Let it, for instance, be understood that every present subscriber of 5*l.* to the fund shall have an unlimited right, or a right within certain limits, to copies of the Catalogue at a price representing the value of each in paper and print. A great boon would be thus conferred on literature; but, that the literary man may have all the benefits of this Catalogue, it should not be merely alphabetical. More time will be lost in turning over its voluminous pages by him who desires to learn if it contains anything suited to his especial purpose, than by a journey from the farthest province to secure the fruit of whose existence in the institution he is already aware. The student should be able to turn directly to the class which concerns him; and find, at one view, what aid there is for his studies in the Library of the Museum. A classed catalogue however, is beyond even our hopes:—though again we say that, for such a collection as this, and with such means as the Trustees can command, we see no good reason why it should be so.

The daily papers announce the death of Mr. Barron Field, at Torquay, on the 11th inst., and in the sixtieth year of his age. Our readers will remember his name as the editor of three of Heywood's plays for the Shakespeare Society, and as the “B. F., in the land of the Kangaroos” of the delightful *Essays of Elia*. Mr. Field was Chief Justice for several years in New South Wales,—and still more recently at Gibraltar. While at the former place, he published the first volume of poems printed in that country; choosing his motto, with a little alteration, from old Bishop Hall:—

*I first adventure, follow me who list,
And be the second Austral Harmonist.*

A second adventurer soon followed, with a kind of tournament motto of his own,—

*I, the second, take the Field,
The next may something better yield;*

but nothing better, we are assured, has since been seen at Sydney than the little publication of the first adventurer. Mr. Field was of a firm and friendly

temperament. His mind was stored with anecdotes of Coleridge and Lamb. He knew them both from his very boyhood; and his father and several of his friends were connected with Christ's Hospital, when Coleridge was a Grecian and Lamb a Deputy-Grecian, under the Spartan discipline of Boyer, the Busby of that school.—The same papers announce the death of Mr. Joseph Hawker, of the Herald's College, Clarencieux King of Arms, and a Fellow of the Society of Arts,—in his 81st year.

The fifth anniversary of the Birmingham Athenic Institute was held in that town on Tuesday last; its president, Lord John Manners, in the chair. The motto of *mens sana in corpore sano* suggests what there is of peculiarity in the features of this institution. It is one of those numerous associations which, to the honour of the times, are springing up in England, for bringing the humble classes of society into companionship with the higher on the ground of intellectual recreation; this one further embodying the spirit that suggests places of invigorating exercise for the artisan,—moulding it, however, into the shape of that one of the Young England whims which aims at returning the people to the outdoor games and sports of their ancestors. Young England has returns upon the past, however, which are more whimsical, more impracticable, and far less wholesome than this: though we doubt if the modern sons of labour have not found so large a fund of intelligent observation to be co-existent with their open-air recreations, as will prevent the whole nation from even going back to cricket and bowls. Be that as it may, there was nothing in Lord George Manners's speech, on the occasion, but what did him honour,—as expressing sound and hearty views, and partaking in no absurd or unpleasant sense of the peculiarities of the School. His Lordship, it appears, had even made the heavy sacrifice of absenting himself from that day's hunt, for the sake of the Athenic body; a sacrifice for which, in our opinion, they expressed a great deal too much gratitude and condescended to far too humble praise. They can have no great estimate of the value of those principles which their Association is meant to represent, nor of the noble lord's earnestness of acquiescence, when they measure the one and the other by a day's abstinence from hunting. We advise the tradesmen and artisans of Birmingham to be content without the association of the great, unless they can have it at a less price than that of sycophancy—a costly payment for a poor man; to fraternize only where they can stand erect,—remembering that to talk to a man taller than themselves the natural attitude is not that of stooping, but looking up;—and to refuse that spirit of lowly subservience on the one hand and aristocratic assumption on the other, which mingled largely in the formal amenities and conceded sports of that Old England time that Young England seeks to revive.

A meeting of the Committee for managing the Hood Fund was held, last week, at the residence of Mr. David Salomons, the Treasurer,—for the purpose of auditing the accounts. It appears that a sum of 1,000*l.* has been invested, on behalf of the family, in the public funds; and there remains a further sum of 200*l.* to invest. It has been proposed to erect a monument over the grave of Hood, in the cemetery of Kensal Green, at a cost not exceeding 50*l.*; and ten guineas were subscribed towards the object by the members of the Committee.

On Wednesday last, the Royal Society of Musicians celebrated their 108th anniversary at the Freemasons' Tavern. There was an unusual attendance of musical professors and amateurs of distinction; and the subscriptions amounted to upwards of 700*l.*

Positively, the Papal government has a more anxious regard for the necks and morals of our English fashionables than seems reasonable,—since it estimates them at a higher value than the owners themselves. This over-appraisal of the former, our readers know, has already had its practical inconvenience to the gay heretics. It will be remembered that the Pope's prohibition against their being endangered, in the horse races and huntings of the Campagna, nearly led to an emigration a year ago, [see *Ath.* No. 898]; and was only withdrawn on the very important consideration of the large revenues which would have followed the emigrants. Encouraged by the

power which they had, on that occasion, discovered to reside in such a threat, our gallant Nimrods have now gone the further length of risking their souls as well as their necks; and, warned by the danger of prohibition, His Holiness has made a curious compromise with his conscience,—abandoning the necks to the discretion of their wearers, but taking the souls under his own. For some time past, the chase of the wild boar has been the passion of the English and Germans resident at Rome; but it is added that the huntings of the morning are succeeded by nights of play, and, worse still, by luxurious repasts, where wine flows in rivers, and among whose guests are many of those young, and more graceful than moral, females, called by the antiphrasis of the place *Stoiciennes*. Thereupon, the police of His Holiness has issued an order, attaching a priest to every hunting-party; with directions to follow its members every where, for the cure of their morals. Each morning, he is to say mass in a neighbouring church; which the Protestant [?] huntmen are bound to attend; and he is to have the place of honour at all their feasts, from which he is to see that women are scrupulously excluded. If this be true, the Pope has taken nearly as effectual a means of laying the wild spirits of the Campagna as when he shut it up against them altogether;—and this appears the less prudent, in view of his financial leanings, inasmuch as we think we see an opening for these rough riders elsewhere, which may teach him too late that he has made a grievous miscalculation as to the price of indulgences. By all accounts, they spend money enough in Rome to purchase the right to every sin in the Decalogue, according to the most extravagant estimate of the most extravagant of his predecessors. We find it stated elsewhere, that a colony of gay spirits, like himself, is likely to spring up within sound of the hunting-horn of the noble owner of the *Croix-de-Gardy*, and his right-hand man, that tamer of "*steep-chase horses*," known to the people of Cannes as M. Leorder. A rich Englishman is said to have purchased a large property in that neighbourhood, for the purpose of erecting villas "destined for noble lords"—and a Protestant church; at which we should feel no surprise at all to hear of Lord Brougham himself officiating, in the character of Anti-Pope since he cannot be Pope, before he rides forth with his companions to the hunting-field. Here, as our readers know, that merry old man already hunts the wild boar and the wolf with Sir O'Gerty, Sir Dunstan Lower, and Sir Edward Bile;—does the Gothic in the *Croix-de-Gardy*, and the classic in the Lake, across which he swims, like another Leander, to dine with the Hero of the *steep-chase*;—and if the Pope do not look to it in time, the sound of the lawyer's bugle may carry a summons, of which His Holiness will have to pay the heavy cost, to those kindred spirits the fashionable and priest-ridden riders of the Campagna.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS, SUFFOLK-STREET, FALK-MALL EAST, IS NOW OPEN, Daily from 9 a.m. till dusk.—Admission, 1*s.* EDWARD HASSELL, Sec.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. THE FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION WILL OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, FALK-MALL EAST, MONDAY, April 27. Open from 9 till dusk.—Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 6*d.* J. W. WRIGHT, Sec.

EASTER HOLIDAYS. DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.—REDUCED PRICE OF ADMITTANCE.—Now OPEN, with a highly interesting exhibition, representing the CASTLE and TOWN of HEIDELBERG (formerly the residence of the Electors Palatine of the Rhine) under the various aspects of Winter and Summer, Mid-day and Evening, and the exterior view of the CATHEDRAL of NOTRE DAME at Paris, as seen at Sunset and by Moonlight, and which has been so universally admired. Both pictures are painted by the late Chevalier Renoux. Open from 10 till 5. Admittance to view both Pictures—Saloon, 1*s.*; Stalls, 2*s.* as heretofore.

EASTER HOLIDAYS. Novelties of extreme interest and information at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION. Scenes in the OREGON TERRITORY form a part of an entirely NEW SERIES OF DISSOLVING VIEWS. Portraits of the most distinguished Men in the SIKH GOVERNMENT and ARMY of LAHORE, magnified by the OPAGUE MICROSCOPE; also, Portraits of Sir H. Hardinge and Sir Robert and Lady Sale.—The PRYSCOPE and CHROMATROPE, with new and beautiful variations. The most interesting of the Novelties at work are MACINTOSH'S ROTARY ENGINE, COLEMAN'S PATENT LOCOMOTIVE ENGINE for ascending and descending Inclined Planes. Farrel's ARCHIMEDIAN RAILWAY, and ENVELOPE CUTTING MACHINE. WOOD'S NEW PATENT STEAM-ENGINE GOVERNOR, and the ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY.—Experiments with the DIVING BELL and DIVER. LECTURES on CHEMISTRY and NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, with brilliant experiments.—Admission, 1*s.* Schools, Half-price. A brief description of the Oregon Territory, from Notes by a Nine Years' Resident, presented to the Visitors.

Under the Patronage of the Queen, and visited during the last week by upwards of 15,000 persons. GENERAL TOM THUMB'S Farewell Lecture at the EGYPTIAN HALL.—All tickets that have been issued will be received, notwithstanding their dates. The little General appears in all the costumes and performs in which he had the distinguished honour of appearing three times before Her Majesty and before all the principal Courts of Europe. Hours from half-past 12 to 2, half-past 3 to 5, and half-past 7 to 9 o'clock.—Admission, 1*s.*; Children, half-price. After 9 o'clock he appears at the Lyceum Theatre.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

ASIATIC SOCIETY.—March 21.—The Earl of Auckland, in the chair.—Dr. Royle communicated some extracts of a letter from Dr. Wight, dated 21st January last, relative to the progress which the cultivation of cotton is making in India, and showing a degree of success and magnitude of produce far exceeding what had been expected. He stated that 30,000 *lb.* have been already gathered; and that "one field, of which regular accounts are kept, has already yielded 700 *lb.* per acre, and is not half done yet." In another extract he strongly recommends the English merchant to purchase in the local markets, through European agents; and to be on his guard against the universal native practice of mixing the cottons of different qualities and prices, by which no first-rate cotton ever reaches Europe from India. Dr. Wight concludes with the expression of his expectation that the American cotton will soon be extensively cultivated in India.

The President communicated a paper on the Geography of the Panjab, by Sir Claude Wade; being the result of observations made during a residence of many years in the north-west province of India, in a high official station. Many modern accounts of that part of the East, to which recent events have given so great an importance, will have necessarily deprived this geographical sketch of some of its value; but as a comprehensive, though succinct, *résumé* of all the information within the reach of an acute observer, the paper was found to be of great interest. The subject is already too closely compressed to admit of further abridgment; but we may select some points for extraction. "The small but deep lake of Rawah, seven coss from Sookait, is connected with a natural curiosity which Sir Claude Wade thinks worthy of investigation. It is said to contain seven floating islands, which are the objects of a sort of worship to Hindu pilgrims. These votaries proceed to the shores of the lake,—address the islands,—and present their offerings; upon which, it is stated, the islands approach the shore, receive the offerings upon their surface, and then retire. As this tale is invariably accredited among the natives, it is not improbable that artificial means are taken to cause the islands to traverse the yielding surface. A more obvious natural curiosity is the site of the temple of Jwalamukhi, near the spot where the Beah enters the plains. The site is said to be a bed of sulphur, which in several places emits flames like those of a lamp. Hindus from all parts of the country resort to the spot to pay their adoration, more especially at the feasts of Huli and Dasahara,—as the temple is one of their most celebrated places of pilgrimage. Among the hills in the neighbourhood are two pools especially dedicated to the discovery of witchcraft. All suspected witches are brought to these pools, where mill-stones are tied about their necks, and they are then thrown headlong into the water: if they sink, it is of course concluded that they have no claims to witchcraft. The practice is very similar to that of our ancestors, with the addition of the mill-stones,—which we should think likely to decide against the admission of any candidate to the dangerous honour of supernatural knowledge. The writer, reviewing the noble river system which intersects the Panjab, expresses his astonishment that a country possessing means of navigation superior to those of most regions of the globe, should make so little use of their advantage. The only boats used in the Panjab are those employed in ferrying goods and passengers from one side to the other of the many streams with which the country is favoured. In a very few cases boats convey pilgrims down the rivers on their way to Mecca; and occasionally bring salt from the mines to towns on the shores; but these instances are so few as to be scarcely worth mentioning. It is probable that this is due to the peculiar character of the race which now governs the country; as a considerable commerce is said to have been carried on formerly between Tatta, Multan, and Lahore by

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the Indus and Ravee. The paper contains also an interesting notice of the artificial islands in the lakes of Cashmere; details the modes of working the mines of lead, copper, iron and antimony, which are found in the northern parts; and contains a description of the immense and celebrated salt mines, which afford a large revenue to the government and a source of employment and profit to a very numerous body of the people. The paper concluded with an account of the trees, fruits, flowers, and other vegetable productions of the country.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—April 7.—Sir John Rennie, President, in the chair.—The conversation upon the Estuary of the River Severn being renewed, led to a discussion on the River Clyde, and the capability for improvements of that river, which will be continued at the next meeting.

The paper read was a notice by Mr. G. Buchanan, explanatory of a plan and sections of the Midlothian Coal Fields. The coal field treated of is that by which the City of Edinburgh has long been supplied; and it was stated to be still very far from exhausted, but that a very large portion of the coal seams were rendered useless on account of the vast volume of water which, percolating through the old workings, pervaded the freestone strata above the coal, and poured down in such quantities, that the pumping engines were barely sufficient to keep open the present workings; it therefore became the object of the proprietors to obtain an extensive system of draining throughout the coal field. Mr. Biddle, of Newcastle, was requested to draw up a report on the subject, from which it appeared that the great difficulty to be encountered arose from the circumstance, that an open water-communication existed throughout the district, and a pumping engine placed in any one spot would draw the water from every part around, which would render it an operation involving great labour and expense, and which ought to be borne equally by all the mine proprietors. The paper then described the situation of the great dyke by which the coal was intersected, and thrown 80 fathoms upwards; the north-east boundary, where the seams are standing on edge; and then gave the different seams of coal and their qualities.

At the monthly ballot for Members, the following candidates were elected:—W. Froude, J. Taylor, Jun., and E. Woods, as Members;—C. Frodsham, J. B. Huntington, and the Rev. S. J. Rigaud, as Associates.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. British Architects, 8, p.m.
- Botanical Society, 8.
- Tues. Horticultural Society, 3.
- Linnean Society, 8.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—“On the Combustion of Fuel under Steam-Boilers, with a Description of Bodmer’s Fire Grate,” by J. G. Bodmer.
- Wed. Geological Society, half-past 8.
- Thurs. Royal Society, half-past 8.
- Society of Antiquaries, 3.—Anniversary.
- Royal Society of Literature, 3.—Anniversary.
- Numismatic Society, 7.
- Fri. Royal Institution, half-past 8.—Prof. Solly “On the Principles and Practice of Agricultural Chemistry.”

FINE ARTS

THE ART-UNION AND THE ATHENÆUM.

As the Art-Union of London has now brought itself and its affairs to a dead lock, it seems a fitting moment for a few words which may retrace the history and principle of its errors; showing, at the same time, how the comment of the *Athenæum* which has attended those errors in the way of warning from the first, after surviving angry denunciation and ungenerous imputation, stands justified by the result. It is impossible to make this review without the appearance of something like a boast. The steps against which we protested are so exactly those which have now to be retraced—the faults which we condemned have so duly borne the fruits which we predicted—and the principles we maintained, against the practice and in spite of abuse, are now returned to us, from almost every intelligent mind which has considered the subject, in language that sounds so like “our own thunder”—that we can scarcely avoid the semblance of a summing up in our proper favour while we desire only to sum up in the interest of the cause. But we are too conscious of our real motives to shrink from what these suggest as useful, on the mere apprehension of their being misunderstood.

We take for granted, as a result of the inquiries which have recently been made into the subject of Art-Unions, and appearing on the face of the Parliamentary Report, that we have these two propositions established:—such associations, constituted on sound principles, are calculated to be instruments of good;—the Art-Union of London, as constituted, has been an instrument tending to evil. We believe, then, that we were amongst the first, if not the very first, to recommend the adoption of the Art-Union scheme into this country; and we even took certain steps extra-editorial to secure that object. “But the unceasing labour of our life,” as we said, years since, [No. 450], “compelled us to devote our time and thoughts to other, and personally more urgent, matters; and, having sown the seed, to rest content in the hope that it had fallen on good soil, and would some day bear fruit.” Such fruit was not slow in appearing—and testifying to the goodness of its soil. Edinburgh, Manchester, and Liverpool severally translated the German plan which we had recommended; and in London a society sprang up, under the exertions of Mr. Dominic Colnaghi, which struck the proper roots, and so gave the sure promise of a useful vitality. In this scheme, the personal gain was so subordinated to the encouragement of Art that it became an element of no offence—the agreeable incident, not the vitiating object. Out of all the funds subscribed in the cause, 10 per cent. was, in the first place, to be set apart for the abstract and wholly unselfish service of Art; “to be applied, under the direction of the Committee, in the purchase of works of British artists, to be presented to, and placed in some church, public building or institution, with the view of exciting public admiration and promoting the cultivation of the higher class of Art.” In that portion of the scheme which included self-reference, the personality was ennobled by the objects it promoted and the means adopted for securing them. The objects were, the support of the artist and the artistic education of the people, —and the means, therefore, did not assume that the people had that education, or that the artist could be served by lowering the standard of his Art down to their want of it. It was adopted as a sound elementary principle that, out of any large body of men combined for a useful purpose, a selected, sifted—few would be likely to represent the highest power of the means for effecting it existing in the body at large—and so, have a tendency to lift the general mass up to the elevation of its own highest particular power. This was education,—even if it went no further: but in a mixed multitude, where those conditions existed in this absolute extreme, that the few had the necessary knowledge and the many had not, there could be little doubt, to earnest men, who were to be the teachers and the controllers for the service of Art. Accordingly, the works which were to be distributed as prizes were to be selected by a competent Committee;—from which the artist, as a party interested, was to be expressly excluded. These, as the true principles of such an association,—the very conditions of its soundness,—had our hearty concurrence: and the Society which embodied them was going prosperously on, promising to be the powerful body which the Art-Union is now, with the added power of a reputation for good achieved,—when the axe was laid to it, from without.

With the *Society for the Encouragement of British Art* already on the ground, no other was, of course, needed,—or could have justified its separate interference with the objects contemplated, except on the ground of some different principle to be adopted for their attainment. Accordingly, the Art-Union took the ground by rejecting all the guarantees insisted on by us then, and admitted on all hands now, to be essential to the wholesome working of these Associations. The abstract provision for high Art was withdrawn—practically at least, and as a condition of the scheme; and in its distribution-portion the appeal was removed from the ground of Art-education and support,—and made to vanity and cupidity. The argument for this was, that there is a greatly larger class who can be so addressed than that on which the existing Society operated.—Numbers were to be won, who could not be won, by the higher motive—invigled into the support of Art by an appeal to their passions. Money was to be given

to the prize-holder, instead of Art, with which he might buy his *guess* at Art,—if he did not evade the purchase altogether; and the artist was placed upon the Council, anything to the contrary thereof declared notwithstanding. The lottery-element of these schemes, which in the former one was a mere instrument, came out here as a principle. Used by the one only as machinery to distribute, it was presented by the other as a temptation to subscribe; and, while the first may have been *legally* within reach of the penalties against gambling, the second thus came *morally* within the spirit and all the terms of their condemnation.

A suspicion of the unsoundness of their principles continually occurred to the new projectors; but, all through the evidence of their exponent Mr. Godwin, is openly made to yield to what they deem the better argument of—a multitude of members. Now, as there is no doubt whatever of the excellence of these gentlemen’s intentions, it is wonderful in what a cloud of fallacies they had involved themselves. If our view of the matter be sound, the increased numbers, as they use them, are an increased evil. The larger the means of action possessed by a society which acts injuriously, the larger the injury—by a very simple proposition. A distinction appears to be made by many of the witnesses who were examined before the Parliamentary Committee between Artists and Art: it seemed to be supposed that the artist could be served separately from his art,—or rather, that Art is served if the artist be so. In the latter form, the proposition is true, if rightly understood. Art is served by a service which is for the ultimate good of the artist—but not necessarily by giving him a commission. But if this were otherwise,—if the artist could be served at the expense of his Art,—why should he? When men talk of serving the artist, we presume it is for the sake of his Art—otherwise we know not what claim he has personally to our active interference more than the dustman. Well, then, supposing that only can be for the final good of the artist which is for the present advancement of his art, what is done for either in this Art-Union scheme? How, for instance, is an association to raise the level of Art which operates always below its higher levels? While giving commissions to a large body of artists, if it can act only upon the interests of the mediocre amongst them, then, so far as its influence goes, it gives a premium to mediocrity—and this premium enlarges with the enlargement of its funds. The more extended is the influence—the wider the agency brought to bear on Art—the more important to Art it is that that agency should be kept wholesome and elevating. Any increase of the agent obtained by lowering the standard—which is what this association confessedly does—is not to be counted as a gain. To the moral mischief add the logical absurdity. The Council say, they allow the prizeholder to select his own pictures, though satisfied of his unfitness to do so, because it is that particular feature of the scheme which fills their subscription-lists:—that is, they desire to elevate Art by means of the public; but the public will aid them in that design only in such a way as must defeat it:—that is, again, the public will assist in elevating Art, on condition that they may be allowed to keep it down! Mr. Godwin, the honorary secretary to the Society, in beating about for an argument in favour of the unselected selection of the prizeholder, came upon a delicious fallacy of his own. We consider, he says, “that a man who selects a picture, by the selection of that picture is induced to take an interest in the subject, * * and if persons should in some instances choose inferior pictures to those which would have been obtained for them, that is an evil which will cure itself. It is speedily pointed out to a man by his friends; and if he does not improve this year he will the next,—and so the public generally become in some degree educated.” Now, not to mention that the honorary secretary here abandons one of his objects for the sake of the other—to say nothing of the injury allowed to be done to Art, while Mr. Godwin’s scholar is practising,—and, without instituting any comparison between the efficacy of this mode of instruction and that which seeks the guidance of the instructor,—our readers will see that the former has the trifling defect of supposing that the same fortunate persons are to get the prizes every year!

—On this subject of numbers, as affected by the question of picture-selecting, Mr. Uwins, R.A., is particularly clear and emphatic. Admitting that there would be a present loss of subscribers by the better system, he adds:—"But it appears to me that the smaller sum, if it were expended in the way I have suggested, would be productive of infinitely more good to the Arts than the expenditure of a large sum in things that will never have any estimation with the world." Even that immediate loss of amount, however, he believes may be recovered—though he would not reckon it as a loss, if it cannot.—"Is it not," he is asked, "one of the objects of Art-Unions to diffuse the knowledge and appreciation of Art; and must not that, in a great degree, depend on the increased amount of subscriptions?" "That, I consider," he says, "would be much more effectively done even by a less amount of subscriptions; because if works of a high character should be circulated among the people, those works would diffuse good taste in Art, and in that way much more money would come to be spent, and more thinking would be arrived at on the subject of Art than ever could come from a lower motive:"—and again, "I believe that if the system were altered, the immediate effect would be reducing the number of subscribers; but immediately the new system was brought into activity, and it was palpable to all what good it was doing, though the same class of subscribers would not be obtained, yet equal numbers would be found of another description;"—"that is, we should exchange the gambler for the friend to Art. Despite its appearances of affluence, Mr. Uwins does not even believe that the present Art-Union has the principle of long life. "It is so very uncertain," he says, "the plan is so very fragile in its constitution, and it is so low a system on which it is now conducted, that it might come to an end very suddenly and in the same way that it has risen." Most of the artists examined, save those only who spoke avowedly in the trade interests,—and the committee who report, take the same view of these fallacies; which we denounced from the first, and for denouncing which, when we stood alone, the threat of prosecution was experimented with against the paper.

But we are not yet at the end of the fallacies in which this Society has involved itself, by the adoption of principles which it knew to be vicious, in the hope of extracting out of their popularity a gain to Art. The lottery-plan to which we have alluded became dangerous in their hands the moment they brought it down to the common field of gambling; and by the time when they applied to the Legislature for an exemption from the penalties which they were to contend had never been imposed in contemplation of a case like theirs, they had brought themselves, as we have said, within the very spirit of the enactment,—and carried the proof which was to defeat their plea in their own hands. Really in earnest themselves, and not intending to arouse the gambling spirit, the Council do, nevertheless, by the whole arrangement of their scheme, and according to the unconscious avowals of their honorary Secretary, address themselves to the love of gambling which exists in the community, and has been deliberately excluded at so many other doors. They awaken the corrupt propensity which the law has endeavoured to lay asleep; and invite it to operate in the name of objects which, more than most others, to be worthily followed, demand the absence of the selfish and the instinct of the pure. In no view, however favourable, as to their influence, present or probable, in the education of the public taste for Art, can the increase or amount of the subscriptions be taken to represent the increase or amount of that educational result, while this notorious element is mixed up with the question. They claim, then, to stand before the law as an exception (which the first Society eminently was) by showing that they are within the rule!—Exceptions can never be allowed but where they are very clearly made out. It is dangerous, at any time, to tamper, by distinctions, with the certainty which should attend all moral decisions—to call that white for a purpose, which has been denounced as black in itself. All such exemptions from the penal operation of a condemned principle resemble too much the indulgences granted by the Catholic Church—the right given to commit an admitted sin for some particular

consideration. And what, in the present instance, has this spirit of gambling done? While it has created an artificial demand (we are taking the evidence elicited from Mr. Godwin himself) for an inferior class of pictures, which has raised them above their value and engaged a large body of artists in their production,—it has not so much as educated a public to sustain even this inferior production; so that the moment the gaming impulse is withdrawn by the interference of Parliament, there is reason to apprehend, as the Secretary himself avows, that the stimulus will fall away, while the mischief which it has generated will remain. The sum of the whole matter is, that while, by the operations of this Union, Art itself has been lowered, the artistic education of the people remains just where it was,—with this only and vicious exception,—that an unwholesome spirit has been encouraged, which has demanded the interference of the Legislature for its suppression.

All these things we foresaw; and for their sake alone it was that we opposed ourselves to the Art-Union of London, when it came to replace the Society already existing with its sound constitutions and flourishing prospects. We gave them the same reasons for our opposition then, when these were prophecies, that we give them now when these have been fulfilled. In every step of their progress we warned them. We recommended to their adoption the same principles which a Parliamentary Committee prescribes to them to-day. We warned them of the injury with which they threatened Art—and of the legal consequences which threatened themselves. What is the issue—first as regards Art, and then as regards themselves? As regards Art—besides the positive influences for evil which they have exercised, we have the following negative results—as gathered from their own secretary. Established for the purpose of affording an encouragement "to all classes of artists and to all classes of Art," have they, ask the Parliamentary Committee, done anything for sculpture?—scarcely anything: there is a resolution in its favour, but which has not yet been acted on:—anything for architecture?—that never entered into their views:—anything for a special application of the arts of design to manufactures?—it has been discussed, but no steps have been taken:—for lithography?—no:—for wood-engraving?—no:—for aqua-fortis engraving and etching?—it has not been seriously considered:—for engraving in cameo?—no:—for medal and die engraving?—no:—for seal cutting?—no:—for the higher branches of Art, even in painting?—no! It is admitted, we repeat, by the Secretary himself, that none of all these things have yet been done; with a rapidly increasing fund, which has reached the powerful figure of 15,000*l.* or 16,000*l.*, and has been upwards of 12,000*l.* for each of the last three years:—while, in the only branches of Art which have received from them any considerable encouragement, the value of that encouragement (and of the system by which it acts) is emphatically expressed in the circumstance that, while their engravings, sold at a guinea, are worth half-a-crown in the market, they have rarely found amongst their whole collection of purchased prizes a picture good enough to engrave from! Is it possible to pronounce a comment more significant on the system of selection, or the influence of the Union upon Art?—As regards themselves,—they have brought things to such a pass that the large funds collected in the name of Art (which the former Society would have administered to most important ends), are lying idle in their hands,—the artists starving who have painted down to them, and so cannot find another purchaser since they are out of the market,—the subscribers discontented: and when the whole body, having unwittingly subjected themselves to legal penalties, go to the Minister for relief, they are told that he dislikes their principle—that "he is not prepared to accept a power for the administration to do that which the law has declared that it would be illegal to do;"—and the entire machinery of the Art Union, having run in the wrong direction, is brought suddenly to a stop!

If we say that we rejoice at this consummation, it is for reasons far higher than the petty one of our own individual triumph. A revision of the scheme is now forced on the consideration of the Council, as the condition of its Parliamentary sanction; and it is probable that the members of that body

might even be inclined to revise it of themselves, in view of the evidence which has been taken, and which may never have presented itself so strongly to them before. Subject to a variety of suggestions which the legislative committee offer, and whose adoption might go far to making a body like this a powerful patron of Art, the former are prepared to recommend the recognition of the latter as a legal body,—either by a declaratory Act, deciding that they were not comprehended within the purview of the Lottery Acts, or an Act giving them, as such, a legal and sanctioned existence." On technical grounds, the Committee prefer the latter; on moral ones, we prefer the former—as we prefer a declaration of innocence to a sanctioning of offence. The payment of the prizeman only in the coin of Art, and the selection by a committee, competently endowed, of the works of Art to be distributed as prizes, are laid down as imperative conditions of any good to be done either to the cause of Art or the education of the people, and as erasing the worse features of the lottery scheme. The Committee enumerate the various plans which have been submitted to them for carrying this principle into effect:—"1. A Committee, to be composed of members of the Council, by election of the same, for the purpose of giving information and suggestions to such of the prizeholders as might think proper to consult them, but with no power to enforce their recommendations.—2. A Committee, similarly constituted, with power to select a limited number of paintings and other objects of Art, to be distributed as prizes; but prizes also to be distributed in money, so as to retain, but to a smaller extent, the present practice of free choice.—3. A Committee, to be constituted partly of members of the Council, and partly of artists and amateurs, appointed by the Government, with power to select and distribute by lot paintings and other objects of Art.—4. A Committee, exclusively elected by and from members of the Council, with power to select and distribute by lot paintings and other objects of Art, as prizes.—5. A Committee, composed and chosen as above, with power to select paintings and other objects of Art for distribution as prizes, but with liberty to each prizeholder to select from this collection, as they now do from the exhibitions at large, according to his taste.—6. A Committee, chosen from and by the Council, as in the Dublin and Edinburgh Art-Union, with power to select paintings and other objects of Art from specified exhibitions, for distribution as prizes."

Other plans, or modifications of these plans, suggest themselves; but it is not worth while to perplex the subject by adverting to them. Of those enumerated by the Committee, No. 1. leaves the matter pretty nearly where it was; and No. 2. we should most certainly reject, as compounding with an error—at once condemning a principle and retaining it. No. 3. embodies the true principle; and, at the same time, leaves the prizeholder all the selection which is wholesome,—the order of selection to be, of course, determined, like the prizes, by lot.—In every case, the selecting committee should be sufficiently large to prevent the chance of a monotony of class, and the selections sufficiently varied to meet the predilections of a multitude of subscribers.—The appropriation of a portion of their funds to the encouragement of the highest Art, by the purchase or commissioning of great works of sculpture and painting, to be devoted to some one of several purposes, is the one other important condition. The rest we need not enumerate; they are rather details than principles,—suggested applications, well worthy of attention, of the conditions which are insisted on, more than absolute conditions themselves.—A body wielding funds to such an amount is a powerful body for good or evil to Art. Their action cannot possibly be indifferent, nor confined to the mere relief it brings the artist. They are trustees, with a large responsibility to the public and to Art—heavily answerable to their own day, but far more so to posterity. They are in a position, as Mr. Uwins says, in some measure to exercise that influence in England which the Government in France does, by its purchase of the best pictures, at the annual exhibitions, for the Luxembourg Gallery; and they have ample means for promoting the arts in many other ways. The subject is of great importance; and any scheme which the Council shall, in this time of its crisis, devise, on principles such as we have main-

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tained and now find echoed, shall have, not only our concurrence, but the hearty and zealous support of our pages. "They can," says the Report of the Parliamentary Committee, "with the large influence already acquired from numbers and contributions, go far, not merely to stimulate, but henceforth to correct and direct public taste. This is not to be achieved by a mere amount of money taken out of other channels, and thrown into what may too often be justly designated the picture-market, nor by injudiciously stimulating, and then as unwisely rewarding, inferior, careless, and ill-regulated talent, nor even by the benevolent rescue from distress of the meritorious and modest; but by a well-directed and well-sustained course of proceedings, carried on through a judicious organization and under well-secured regulations, having the encouragement of Art in all grades, but especially of the highest in each, for its ultimate end and object."

HAYDON'S NEW PICTURES.—Amongst the advertisements in *The Times* it was our ill-fortune to alight on the following:—

Haydon's new pictures are now open at the Egyptian hall, up stairs to the right. Admission 1s.; catalogues 6d. In these two magnificent pictures of the Burning of Rome by Nero and Banishment of Aristides, "the drawing is grand and characters most felicitous, and we hope the artist will reap the reward he merits," says the *Times*, April 6. "These are Haydon's best works," says the *Herald*, same day. N.B. Visitors are requested to go up into the gallery of the room, in order to see the full effect of the flames of the burning city. Nero accused the Christians of this cruel act, covered hundreds of them with combustible materials, and burnt them for the amusement of the savage Romans.—(the *Tactius*.) Haydon has devoted 42 years to improve the taste of the people, and let every Briton who has pluck in his bosom and a shilling in his pocket crowd to his works during the Easter week.

If this remarkable advertisement emanated from, or was sanctioned by, Mr. Haydon, it is quite obvious that, in the course of the forty-two years which he has devoted to improve the taste of the people, he has very much neglected his own. It must, however, be admitted, so far as this advertisement is proof, that Mr. Haydon's taste is of a very popular character. It is much the fashion to regard a shilling in a man's pocket as essential to "pluck" in his bosom; and to confine the designation "Briton" to a man who, in Easter week, has "a shilling in his pocket" with "pluck in his bosom,"—that is, with a firm determination to spend it. With the impression of this advertisement, however, on our mind, our visit to the exhibition itself did not tend to remove the distaste which vulgar egotism is sure to create. Had the *Aristides* and the *Nero* been all that we were by this advertisement led to expect, still would our foregoing remarks have been invested with the pungency which sarcasm derives from truth. But what are they? Viewed as the productions of a man of undoubted natural genius and of very lengthened experience in Art, and viewed also in the point where his own description places them,—as two of a series of paintings "perpetually pressed on the authorities by letter and petition for thirty-six years," as "grand works illustrating the best government to regulate a nation without cramping its liberties,"—the mind of the spectator is compelled to look through the lens of Mr. Haydon's own conceptions, and to measure the grandeur of his scheme with the actual fulfilment of the portion accomplished in these works. In the former, we are amusingly assisted by a pamphlet or catalogue so descriptive, that no particle of his "intentions" can remain unnoticed.

"The moment taken in this picture is the moment after the decree of the people, when Aristides, and his family, and household dog, are leaving the Piræan Gate. This is the instant taken. Aristides is looking to heaven, and appealing to the gods; on his left arm leans his wife, with her newly-born infant, looking with apprehensive indignation at the mob, which is hooting and pointing at her. Holding the belt of his robe, on the right, is his son Lysimachus, too young to comprehend completely the condition of his father, but not so young as not to be aware there is something to be alarmed at. Close to the right arm of Aristides is a venerable archon of the Areopagus (the great hall of justice) reasoning and appealing to Themistocles on the gross injustice of the decision. Themistocles, as statesman and warrior, is standing, armed, on the step of a tomb by the road-side, and maliciously enjoying the fate of the man he feared.

The archon looks as if he had a strong suspicion that Themistocles was at the bottom of the whole."

Such is a part of the long and minute description with which, in spite of his declamation against the explanations that must perforce accompany allegorical design, Mr. Haydon deems it necessary to explain his picture of *fact*. In this painting, neither the general composition, nor the working of the parts, points to the hand of a great master. There is the wish for sublimity, without its attainment. The action of Aristides, of his wife and child, is well conceived; but the head of the ostracized Athenian is deficient in grandeur, appropriate character, and power of design. The left leg of the boy has an unaccountable swelling on the inner side of the tibia; while the hands of the hero are small in their parts, though the legs of the same personage exhibit that power of drawing, and mere painting, which are the artist's occasional characteristics. Let us take exception against the want of a variety of salient and retiring parts in the composition,—the absence of rich glazing,—the needless vulgarity of the mob,—and particularly against the libel on *Themistocles*. Themistocles standing in that manner at the banishment of Aristides! And this was designed for an assembly, where, if anywhere in the world, the union between innate dignity of thought and external action would immediately strike the mind, and point to the falsity of this representation! If we look for fine light and shade, dignified cast of drapery, tasteful discrimination of character, or skilful arrangement of the parts of the story, we must own to an opinion utterly opposed to the commendation bestowed in the advertisement; and congratulate the successive ministries who, for the last thirty-six years, have refused to carry out Mr. Haydon's design. He who has been so severe a critic on others can never condemn the justice of which he has been the executioner, when her stern decrees are visited on himself; and when we look at his remarks, in this catalogue, on his competitors in the Westminster Hall Exhibitions, on the regulations of the Commission, and on Mr. Eastlake's conduct, we cannot but admire the "pluck" that tempted him thus prominently to put forward his "Nero,"—whatever we may think of the taste which it displays. Judging from the paucity of attendance, we should think that the Britons who have "pluck in their bosoms" must have been stuck on the other horn of the dilemma! The "Nero" is the worse of the two productions. Whereas the one does embody, in Mr. Haydon's fashion, many well-chosen characteristics of the scene, this is distinguished by nothing save a portico, a flame-lit sky, a few backs of guards, and the figure of Nero with his bunch of grapes and goblet of wine. We cannot find a word of sincere commendation for this painting, if we look at it, as we said before, in connexion with the high destiny wanted for it by the painter. As an exhibition picture, it might do tolerably well; as one of a "series of grand works," and indeed would be the fame of England if she had to rest on such a collection. Where could have been Mr. Haydon's fancy? Where are the groups of the infuriated Romans? Where the persecuted Christians? Where even is the excited mania of the despotic tyrant? The geometric backs of the Prætorian guard are not suggestive of the commotion of the city; while the Emperor rests his feet on the commonplace footstools, without a particle of the insane furor we have been taught to imagine he must have been possessed with at the moment. Here again, while the power of brush is manifest, the art is limited. Colour is absurd, without being supplied by grandeur of composition or sublimity of chiaroscuro. Let Mr. Haydon write up for even Michael Angelo and Raffael, he will never make us prefer himself to Cornelius and Hess, unless, in decrying the mediæval propensities of the latter, he can give us the more sterling qualities that distinguished the excellent objects of his admiration. As a writer, Mr. Haydon has done good for Art,—as an earnest, warm and constant propagator, in general society, of the higher feelings connected with Art, we acknowledge his claims to our thanks;—as a powerful designer and original thinker we award him willing praise;—but as a "painter," in the comprehensive sense of the term, we cannot agree with him that "the artist of the works now exhibited to the public has been badly treated."

Paris, March.

Ten thousand thanks to the gentlemen of the Stände (i. e. members of parliament) of Saxony! They have voted a sum of money for a new Palace for the reception of their most royal collection of pictures. This is a European event. Everybody that has eyes to see, or a heart to feel, what is greatest in Art is interested in these miracles being housed, if not according to their deserts, at least safely, and in the manner the most advantageous to their beauties. You know my notions about picture-galleries. How earnestly is it to be wished that the three unapproachable works of the Gallery, the *Madonna Sistina*, Holbein's *Madonna*, and the '*Christo della Moneta*,' should each have a room—a chapel—a shrine—a temple to itself; a place, in short, where the *genius loci* may reign sole and supreme; where the devotee may fill himself with the inspiration he seeks. I heard David, the sculptor, the other day, speak of Titian's wondrous '*Christ*.' "From the moment you look at that," said he, "you accept it as the true image of the Son of God. That is Jesus; that, and no other." The influence of such a picture is not to be enjoyed, or even felt, amidst a crowd of other images, be they what they may. The two transcendent representations of the Virgin, in the same collection, are the result of a totally different set of emotions and conceptions in the minds of the artists, and can be felt and appreciated only by those in whom they awaken a corresponding set of emotions and conceptions. And how can this be, if they are seen together? Their character and attributes are fundamentally different; each can only disturb the impression made by the other. But one need not preach these truths to Germans, to the more cultivated among whom they are familiar. No doubt, they will avoid the confusion and *Zersplitterung* of effects and emotions, as much as circumstances will permit.

I shall be vastly curious to see what the comparative poverty and insignificance of Saxony will produce in the way of a building to put by the side of the splendid product of the wealth and power of England which adorns Trafalgar Square. As we are gradually emancipating ourselves from the trammels of prejudice and the delusions of ill-understood interests, we may perhaps hope to see the sound and salutary doctrines which have conquered in our commercial legislation consistently and universally applied. We may hope that protection of native Art may soon share the fate of protection of native industry. Our artists are too enlightened and liberal to desire to retain a monopoly which is, after all, founded on the presumption that their works will not stand the test of competition. If they could have so little generous enthusiasm for progress as to desire it, we should have a right to apply to them the arguments which have been successfully used against the landlords, and to prefer to the supposed interests of a class the interests of a whole people.

There is no more reason why we should have our souls starved for the benefit of a class than our bodies. And, in one respect, the privations imposed on us are more disastrous, since we are often condemned to pay high for intellectual food, not only inferior in quality, but enfeebling and deleterious in its effects. As to price, it is a question which may here well be waived, but, at least, let us determine "to have the best for our money," even though we fetch it from Central Africa. The best, the only true encouragement to Art, is not the giving a monopoly to mediocrity, but the cultivating in the whole people a quick sense of excellence. And how is that to be done? By Schools of Art, Academies, and the like topical applications, only in so far as they extend the knowledge of the great models to larger numbers, for they do not even profess to lay the groundwork of an æsthetic education. If that is laid anywhere it is at Eton and Westminster, or wherever Greek is best taught and Greece best understood. But the number of students in academies are as nothing compared to the whole people, whose taste and judgment must be formed by what is constantly accessible to them, and, indeed, forced upon their attention. Public buildings and their various decorations, statues in public places, streets, houses; these are the things which form the national taste, because they are always before our eyes: nor can academies, or even museums and galleries, however excellent, counteract

the effect of the constant presence of bad models. What Athenian could have endured existence in Trafalgar-square. All the comforts of the most comfortable of clubhouses would never atone to him for the daily and hourly suffering inflicted by ugliness and disharmony. Till you can give your people a little of this æsthetic sensibility, it is nonsense to talk of encouraging Art; and when you have given it, Art will want no factitious encouragement. But it is vain to expect it to co-exist with monstrosities, or even with mediocrities.

The existence of talent, or even of genius, in a few individuals of a nation, is not enough. Out of a mass of cultivated, or, at least, of unperverted taste, genius and talent will spring up, here and there, imbued of course with the universal sentiment, and gifted, over and above, with the peculiar aptitude for creation and execution. But out of a tasteless mass, whatever talent and genius may arise, will, of necessity be infected with the universal vulgarity. Why did Athens and, for a time, Italy, produce such irreproachable models? Because the æsthetic sentiment was diffused among the people by the constant presence of Beauty. Then, as now, the mass were incapable of production, but whatever was produced bore a tinge of the universal culture. The rudest village architect or painter would not have imagined the things we are daily afflicted with,—for how should he come by the conception? The artistic superiority of Germany is, of course, of a more factitious and, consequently, a more partial and incomplete kind. It is the result of study, but of widely-diffused study. With us, and in France, clear and sound ideas on the province and aims of Art are nearly as rare in one class as in another. In Germany they are pretty generally shared by the educated classes. The defects in execution are to be traced to causes which it would not be difficult to explain.

At any rate, the Germans have admirable books on these subjects, and they are sufficiently read to give a tinge to the general literature and conversation of the country. One does not hear the slang of so-called connoisseurs,—men who talk of Art in the language and spirit of "handworkers," and of one department of Art as if it were wholly independent of others. To practise an art a man ought to be intimately acquainted with all its technical details; to judge of Art requires totally different acquirements. These the artist ought, unquestionably, to have in a higher degree than other men; but he will not have them except by some rare accident, where they are not regarded as the indispensable basis of all artistic education, whether executive or simply speculative. Now what is the course of reading recommended to our students in Art? The Academy distributes prizes of books. Is nothing to be found but the Lectures of Fuseli, Opie, and Barry? They were very eminent men in their way; and would have been much more so, if they had received the training which makes great artists. But how could they teach what they never learned? Even in the much admired lectures of Sir Joshua Reynolds one looks in vain for any of the broad or profound principles of Art to be found in such writers as Lessing. Were he now alive he would doubtless profit by their speculations; but in his time the golden thread which binds together the arts,—the principles which govern them all, were not thought of. Nothing can be more empty and valueless than the descriptions of works of Art by the gentlemen of a polite taste who travelled over Europe before the French Revolution. The godless eighteenth century had neither the power nor the inclination to follow after Beauty in the stony track pointed out by Plato and Dante, and perceived with more or less of continuity and distinctness, by her great interpreters of Greece and Italy, some of the more single-minded and devout among whom this perception was, without doubt, intuition. But such a condition of things could not last; and between the time of the naïf, unconscious Art, inspired by Nature and Religion, and the period of profound analysis and philosophical contemplation, there must be an arid tract of dexterity and talent, with here and there an oasis of struggling genius.

There is in Germany a mine of æsthetic criticism and speculation, and though this is sometimes fantastic and affected, sometimes pedantic and obscure, to those not familiar with the literature and philosophy of the country, it is always learned, large, and sugges-

tive. Whether you agree or differ, you are made to reflect, and try works of Art by high standards. At all events, be it what it may, it is the only literature affording a course of æsthetic study; though others offer separate works of great value. The works of Lessing, Winkelmann, Goethe, A. W. von Schlegel, Rumohr, W. von Humboldt, and others, would furnish ample and precious matter for such a course.

Here, now, is one of those undertakings which justify the existence of such bodies as academies. It is hardly a matter for private speculation. It would require enormous labour and great discrimination. But surely it would be more becoming in bodies affecting to give a direction to the studies of aspirants, not to leave them for ever to grope their way along the arduous ascent, without a light to show either the point they start from or that to which they ought to tend.

The use of such a *corpus* would be by no means confined to painters, or sculptors and architects; musicians and poets might there find, not infallible rules or technical directions, but lofty and yet accurate views as to the scope of Art, and fine pieces of analysis and criticism on its productions. Nor would the effect of these in correcting and forming the judgment of the public be less important.

This is a long digression from Trafalgar-square; but, alas! to that we must return; for of all the offences to the judicious living and outrages to the mighty dead, there is the most *désespérant*. Once in an age, Heaven sends us a man of genius—a man of a wholly peculiar stamp. Such a man was Nelson. I have, as you know, small respect for, or sympathy with, warriors; but Nelson had a character compounded of all the fiery elements that ever the imagination of poet or romance-writer conceived. He is, indeed, the only man of modern times whose virtues and vices were mingled in those gigantic proportions that characterized the demi-gods and heroes of antiquity. There is scarcely a height or a depth of which human nature is capable that he did not at one time or other reach; and for the two objects of his passionate and unceasing adoration, one may say that he was capable of a devotion incompatible with the reflections or the scruples of a wiser and juster man. With regard to the excesses of the nobler passion of his great heart, one must always recollect in what light his England must have appeared to him. He felt that he had to watch over her very existence; and, indeed, what man, woman, or child, did not feel safe and tranquil, because Nelson kept the sea? No man ever stood in such a relation to such a country; and, considering his fervid temperament, it is no wonder that he thought of nothing but how best to defend that "gem set in the silver sea," entrusted to his keeping. His weaknesses were as remarkable as his gifts and qualities, and his life was a romance. Nelson is, and will remain, one of the great heroic figures of the world,—totally unlike and apart from the numerous successful drillers and fighters who are vulgarly called heroes.

Such was the man whom we wanted to honour, and whose memory and image we were to transmit to our posterity. Is it not natural to ask this intrepid and tender heart,—the abode and the slave of passion,—this far-reaching, erring instinct, in what outward form did it lodge? How did the man look beneath the shadow of whose flaming sword our fathers slept? Surely this is what posterity is interested in knowing. Well, we may safely affirm, that never was the great tragic stamp set by nature on a face more clearly than on this. The wondrous bust of Alexander the Great, in the Louvre, is, indeed, profoundly affecting; but even that, with all its beauty and all its god-like and graceful melancholy, is less so than the pale, uncomely face of Nelson. If the one has the harmonious and divine beauty of the Greek tragedy, the other is Shakspearian, human: it includes all the greatness and all the littleness of our nature, and therefore it excites all our sympathies.

Surely it would not have been too much to expect that England—England which he loved with such passionate devotion—would have searched the earth for some one who could have placed before us, and before our children, the likeness of this man, with whatever perfection modern Art has attained to; or that rewards, large enough to provoke the competi-

tion of all the ablest sculptors, should have been freely held out to all.

We might thus, at least, have had something as satisfactory as Rauch's statue of Frederic the Great,—another singular and most significant figure; which posterity will desire to know and to study. I think I have mentioned that statue to you before. It is one of the most successful attempts at rendering visible the essential characteristics, moral and physical, of a great man (the entire individual, in short) that I ever saw. In this case genius has given to a figure, absolutely devoid of physical beauty, grace, or grandeur, and a dress neither consecrated by tradition nor by fashion (indeed almost grotesque), dignity, elevation, resistless authority. There, in the very place where his eye and gesture were omnipotent, will he continue to look command as long as the marble lasts.

It is not very likely that a German—a Prussian—even were he Rauch, could ever arrive at understanding, or, consequently, seeing Nelson, as he has seen Frederic. But it was worth the trial; England could for once have afforded to pay for experiments.

What do we do? Build up another specimen of that miserable resource of the idealist—a tall column (standing on tiptoe, too, so as to shock and alarm the eye), whose only merit is, that it places the statue upon it out of sight.

The French are more courageous. They do not build pedestals hundreds of feet high for their bad statues. The friends of the poor Duke of Orleans would really serve his memory if they would subscribe for a column upon which to hoist the statue of him lately erected.

But there is no use in venting one's ill-humour at particular exemplifications of a bad system. There is no use in making wry faces every year at the fruit of a tree which we know to be worthless. An enormous advance has already been made in England. The prospects of Art are encouraging. The people are allowed access to great models. It only remains to be intolerant of bad; intolerant of all mediocrity,—above all, mediocrity of conception. The evil of going without works of Art is nothing, compared to the evil of training the public eye to tolerate inferior ones. The aim of Art is Perfection—that perfection which reality never affords us, and after which the soul aspires with ceaseless longing. Let us keep in mind this, its high vocation. Let us never come to demand of it that it should reveal to us some glimpse of that Beauty,

Che solo il suo Fattore tutta la goda.

DECORATION OF THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

The evidence on this subject, given by Mr. Estlin before the Art-Union Committee, is worth a moment's consideration.

"Is the selection of artists for the New Houses of Parliament final?—The Commissioners do not bind themselves to employ them finally."

"Do you think that those artists who are now selected are all of them fit to decorate such buildings as the two Houses of Parliament?—They are fit to make experiments for the purpose, and that is all they are as yet invited to do."

"Do you think they will be able to do it ultimately?—I have no doubt of it."

"You would have no objection to their making experiments upon the building itself; you would not suppose that, because the fresco was put upon the building, therefore the fresco should continue there?—Not necessarily; it was not the case in Rome. The works of the earlier masters were effaced to make way for others; but the earlier works were the best of the time when they were done."

If our readers will read the last Report of the Fine Arts Commission by the light which this evidence throws upon it, they will be somewhat surprised at that portion which is personal to certain artists. That it would appear that Mr. Dyce only is fit to decorate such buildings as the two Houses of Parliament; while Mr. Cope, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Horsley, and others are fit only "to make experiments," and "that is all they are as yet invited to do." The secretary to the Fine Arts Commission has not a doubt that the six artists who were selected in 1844 will ultimately be able to decorate the Houses of Parliament; at present, as their performances are creditable, "considering the circumstances," they may make experi-

ments. Now true; but the 1844, on which testimony, outward. The g to make exp they were not been told of powers, and powers might add that, if s mission, some making exper We have mo only ought to nations, w given up to some such ar to understand suppose that, the buildings, our own part Houses of P ample space of a rising ge time, we tru ments of the of a living ar not be efface reason, we en the buildings Let experim over again le in that build of matured s mission will r to be under ments, to say deemed fit to

FINE ART pledge, some venary to pa the consignm den which in exhibition now, before th to redeem or with us at a for the consi our sculptors ditions so un on the subject without supp immediate in doing our part have a right to from those w we last wrote aim to the s interests can natives of Art be hoped that the notation as t they must un cause—and fo cal keeping; shall at no ti The chieft Academician, the national mouth, about Greenwich H rote. The Lik Lawrence's p lated with a Th will form a Royal Acad on the subject Of the th Committee of of gem-engra and 50L res two daughter; Mnt. The st least two str marked 6 in

SADLER'S WELLS.—Easter Monday at this theatre was celebrated by the revival of Mr. H. Payne's tragedy of 'Brutus,' Mr. Phelps appearing for the first time in the character which Edmund Kean rendered illustrious. Remarkable for judgment and taste among actors, Mr. Phelps always brings to his performance careful study, and selects his points with discrimination. It is seldom that he over-acts, but he is always pathetic,—in him the most violent emotions excite pity. 'Brutus' is precisely a character suited to his talent. As usual with this company, the other parts were more than respectably

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